

Hongkong

Weekly Press

Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVII.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 8th March, at Fo chow, the wife of D. A. G. FARRANT, of a son.
On the 17th March, at No 13, Poone Road, Shanghai, the wife of O. A. MADAR, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 28th February, at Mengtze, Yunnan, at the Catholic Chapel, by the Rev. Father de Gorostaran, and at the French Consulate by Mr. Samson, French Consul, ONIA GIOVANNI DI DIO TIBERII, of Tollo, (Chieti, Italy, to ENRICHETTA ELISABETH IRENE DE VIOLINI, only daughter of GIBERTO NOBILE DE VIOLINI and Mrs. GINA DE VIOLINI, of Brescia, Italy.

DEATHS.

On the 8th March, at Tient in, NUBDO MACKENZIE, of I.M. Customs, aged 61 years.
On the 11th March, at Tongshan, ANNIE, the wife of ENOCH PINKS.
On the 14th March, at Ningpo, the wife of ALFRED JOSEPH HUDSON, aged 35 years.
On the 14th March, at 49, Miller Road, Shanghai, ISABEL FRANCISCA TERRIBLE, aged 54 years.
On the 15th March, at Singapore, CAROLINE, widow of Capt. JOHN DILL ROSS.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD C.L.
LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 20th February arrived, per N.Y.K. s.s. *Wakasa Maru* (transferred from the M.M.s.s. *Tonkin*) on the 25th March (33 days); and the English mail of the 27th February arrived, per P. & O. s.s. *Ballgarut*, on the 27th March (28 days).

HONGKONG.

The number of plague cases in the Colony from January 1st to date is returned as 122.

Mr. A. H. Skelton, J.P., has been appointed Visiting Justice to the Po Leung Ku in place of Captain G. C. Anderson, resigned.

The appointment of Dr. W. F. Pearse, to act as Medical Officer of Health, Sanitary Superintendent, and Superintendent of Statistics during the absence of Dr. Clark is gazetted.

A Colombo rumour states that Sir Henry Blako will succeed Sir Joseph West Ridgeway as Governor of Ceylon in the event of his probable transference to South Africa.

The following names have been added to the list of authorised architects:—Messrs H. W. Bird, G. Blood, A. Bryer, C. H. Gale, A. H. Hewitt, A. H. Hollingsworth, G. E. Lee, and A. H. Ough.

A coolie named Cheung Sam sustained an injury to his leg by being struck with a stone dislodged through blasting operations at Quarry Bay on the 24th inst. He was sent to hospital.

A notification in a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* issued on Thursday states that telegraphic information has been received that the Government of Burma has declared Hongkong to be an infected port.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 22nd March were 289 non-Chinese and 62 Chinese to the former, and 59 non-Chinese and 2,501 Chinese to the latter institution.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to provisionally appoint Dr. J. M. Atkinson, principal civil medical officer, to be an official member of the Legislative Council on the resignation of the Hon F. J. Badeley.

The *N.C. Daily News* of the 21st inst. has the following paragraph:—A harbour notification states that the port of Hongkong is declared infected, and vessels arriving therefrom are subject to the usual quarantine at Wai-woong.

A boxing contest, (Civilians v. Service Men, was held in the Theatre Royal on the 26th inst. for the benefit of Mr. J. J. Downs, who has leaving the Colony on account of ill health. The large number of spectators who turned out to witness the bout was evidence of the popularity in which Mr. Downs is held.

Mr. A. J. May, of Queen's College, is going home on leave and is taking with him four Eurasian boys, all Queen's College scholars. Their names are:—Hung Hing Kam, Hung Kwok Leung, Ho Sai Kwong, and Ho Sai Leung. The first two have already passed the Senior Oxford Local Examination and the other two are still students in the Queen's College.

The many friends of Mr. Mike Collins, who has long been a familiar and popular figure as manager of the Engineers' Institute, will be pleased to learn that he has taken over the proprietary of the Bay View Hotel. As the objective of an after-dinner picksh ride, the Bay View has no equal in the Colony, and under Mr. Collins's experienced management it should become even more popular than it is at present.

The Chinaman who was injured during blasting operations at Pine Wood Battery, Pokfulam, has since died in hospital.

The following police changes consequent on the departure of Mr. F. J. Badeley, the Captain Superintendent, on leave of absence are notified in the *Government Gazette*:—Captain F. W. Lyons to act as Captain Superintendent of Police, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, and Superintendent of Victoria Goal; Mr. E. R. Hallifax to act as Deputy Superintendent of Police and Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse to act as Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade.

At the Regular Convocation of Cathay Chapter, No. 1,165 E.C., held at the Freemasons' Hall on the 20th inst., M. E. Comp. E. C. Ray (for the District Grand Superintendent) and the Officers of the District Grand Chapter attended and installed the Principals for the ensuing twelve months, viz., M. E. Comp. W. H. Wickham, M.E.Z.; E. Comp. R. C. Edwards, H.; E. Comp. A. H. Bottenheim, J. The M.E.Z. invested the following officers:—Comp. J. W. C. Bennar, S.E.; Comp. E. A. Banner, S.N.; Comp. W. A. Sims, Treasurer; Comp. E. H. Ray, P.S.; Comp. C. H. Blason, 1st. A.S.; Comp. A. Cochrane, 2nd. A.S.; Comp. C. P. Chater, jun., D.C.; Comp. G. E. Cole, Steward; Comp. J. Vanstone, Janitor.

A coolie at the Police Court on Thursday told an ingenious story in giving his version of an incident that led to his appearance in the dock on charge of stealing two jackets which were drying on the roof of a house in Bonham Strand. He was carrying a bird in his hand, he said, and the bird flew away. It lighted on the bamboo pole carrying the two jackets, and, seeing this, the erstwhile owner of the feathered pet climbed the scaffolding surrounding the house to recapture it. Just as he was on the point of laying his hand on the bird, it flew away again, and he was clutching the jackets in his hand, quite unconscious of what he was doing, when the owner of the clothing appeared and arrested him. The Magistrate did not believe the story, and sent the defendant to goal for one month, with hard labour.

In October, 1898, the S.P.C.K. voted £50 towards a church at Kowloon, to cost £250 and to seat 100 people, but this grant could not be claimed. Archdeacon Bannister, of Hongkong, we learn from a home paper, has now written:—“It was not possible for us at that time to fulfil your two conditions, namely, that the church should be vested in a corporation, and that the church should remain on that site for ever, inasmuch as the Church in Hongkong was not then organised, and also because of the fact that the land was only held on an annual lease, terminable at the will of the Government. These two difficulties have been removed. The Chinese Church has now been organised into a self-supporting and self-governing branch of the Anglican Communion, and His Majesty's Government have made a grant in perpetuity of a site for the erection of a church, on which it is now proposed to build a larger church. The church will cost from £200 to £270 and will accommodate 400 people. The Bishop of Victoria supported the application, and the committee recommended that the former grant of £50 should be written off, and that a grant of £100 should be voted towards the proposed church at Kowloon, which was voted.”

NEW ADMIRALTY DOCK FIASCO.

(Daily Press, 26th March.)

Nothing could have caused much greater stir in the Colony than that which has just occurred in connection with the Naval Yard Extension scheme. Ever since the scheme was set afoot by the Admiralty authorities it has encountered opposition—not against the principle but against the method of extension. The argument put forward at the initiation of the scheme by the opposition was thoroughly sound and what has since taken place has only served to strongly emphasise the contention. Over on the Kowloon side there was to be found all the essentials for a Naval Yard with indefinite possibilities of extension and development. But the authorities, in spite of local opinion, chose to have the Docks constructed on the Hongkong side of the Harbour, on a site limited in area and almost incapable of being extended. Thereby the continuity of the Praya front was split up and in one sense the great scheme of reclamation that was to provide the island with that which it most greatly needs: land—land stolen from the sea—was impeded. The contract was fixed in the beginning of 1900. Before the work was commenced there were endeavours made to get the authorities to revise their decision and select a site on the Peninsula. Indeed, some three years ago rumour was so active that it actually removed the Naval Yard to Tsimshatsui Bay. Then, at any rate, was the time for the change of plans. The Admiralty were just entering upon an extension of the Yard which was to cost something like a million sterling. Rumours to the contrary received their quietus when at length the work was begun, but even in the early stages of the operations there were occasional resurrections of the talk about removal. Now the work has been in progress for over two years—that is to say, about one-half has been completed if we reckon on the basis, which was stated at the time the contract was entered into, that the entire undertaking would take about four and a half years to complete. And at the present moment, if all accounts be true, the position of matters is that it has been found impossible owing to engineering difficulties, to pursue the scheme to a conclusion. What these difficulties are can only be conjectured. At least no authoritative public announcement has been made on the subject. But there is little question that they are insurmountable. It seems that the unforeseen obstacle to progress is one to baffle the skill of any engineer. According to our information, the contractors have found, in their submarine workings, that the proposed dock has no proper foundation, that the sea bottom consists of a sort of quagmire which defies the dredger and cannot be built upon. If all this is correct, one cannot but regret that the money already spent should have been, so to speak, poured into a bottomless receptacle. It is unfortunate that the operations should have gone so far before this fatal discovery was made. But the shield has another side. If we have to regret money uselessly expended, we can at any rate look forward with some satisfaction to the removal of the Naval Yard from a place where it ought never to have been and to the crowning consummation of our Reclamation Scheme.

So Fat, the Lukong who, as we have already reported, was charged with stealing a watch and \$20 from a fisherman on a junk at Aberdeen was acquitted at the Police Court on the 21st inst. Mr. M. J. D. Stephens defended him.

SANITARY BOARD ELECTION.

(Daily Press, 25th March.)

The interest which is being manifested in the election by the ratepayers of two representatives as members of the Sanitary Board, is quite a new feature in local politics. The election takes place this afternoon, and in view of the fact that considerable doubt and misapprehension appear to prevail as to the procedure, a few observations on the subject will doubtless be of use to the ratepayers who intend taking part in the proceedings at the City Hall this afternoon. Four candidates will be nominated this afternoon for two seats on the Board. They are Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C., Mr. A. SHELTON HOOPER, Mr. E. A. HEWETT, and Mr. AHMET RUMJAHN. It was intended also to nominate Mr. MARCUS SLADE, but that gentleman, with that eminent courteousness of spirit which characterises all his public appearances, has announced his withdrawal from conflict with his brother of the silken robe: he will be quite willing to come forward when the community calls for a successor to its present (or rather potential) adviser on the Sanitary Board; and we have no doubt that the community will not look twice before electing Mr. SLADE when the next opportunity occurs. Meanwhile we have Mr. POLLOCK as one candidate to whom the electors should have no hesitancy in offering their suffrages. He is a man of proved integrity, of fluent speech, and of that strictly legal mind which wants to understand all things brought under its notice and to get at the root of them by a process of logical reasoning and common-sense. Mr. POLLOCK must be one of the elect. Then we have the qualifications of Mr. E. A. HEWETT to consider, and not to be lost sight of are the pretensions of Mr. AHMET RUMJAHN. To take the last first, Mr. RUMJAHN is a public-spirited citizen whose many endeavours to promote the weal of the community cannot but be considered admirable; however, it must be remembered that the representation on the Board as regards other than Europeans is already laid down by the Government as an almost unalterable principle. The European community therefore can be excused if they resolve to stand or fall by one of their own race. And now comes the question: Is it to be Mr. HEWETT or Mr. HOOPER? Mr. HEWETT represents great mercantile interests, he has held the most responsible position that can be held in the Shanghai Municipal Council, and he is a man acquainted with the routine of municipal work. Mr. HOOPER, on the other hand, has little experience of work of a public nature. But that notwithstanding, he is a man of exceptional experience in the life of the Colony: he knows more perhaps about the building business of Hongkong than most men; he is acquainted with its sanitary requirements and he is not a man to let his own interests stand in the way of the public need. Mr. HEWETT would serve any electorate loyally and with credit, but with all respect to his many qualities and his eminent good sense and integrity, we think that Mr. HOOPER has the better claim to the suffrages of the electors.

It is very important that the electors should bear in mind that the rules for the election here are very different to those which obtain in elections at home. The nominations will take place at the City Hall this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Nomination papers will be supplied by the Returning Officer or his assistants to be duly filled in, and these being found in

order the voting, which will be by ballot, will at once be proceeded with, and the ballot box will remain open until six o'clock. *No elector can give more than one vote.* In elections anywhere else in the wide world, if there are two persons to be elected on any public body, the electors have the right to give two votes. We understand that the Attorney-General has definitely decided that the words of the Ordinance: "No elector shall give more than one vote" must be taken to mean precisely what they say. As it stands, the rule is absurd and ought to have been revised before being incorporated in the New Ordinance. We imagine that the intention of the framers of the rules, which have been in existence, we believe, fully twenty years or more, was to prevent "plumping"; but the rule is now held to mean that an elector can only give one vote even though there were a dozen seats to be filled on the Board. Surely it was never intended to mean that.

Voting papers will be supplied to the electors present, who have to write on them the one candidate of their choice and in the next column put a cross against the candidate's name. The persons entitled to vote at the election are ratepayers who are included in the Special and Common Jury Lists for the year 1903 and also those ratepayers who are exempted from serving on Juries on account of their professional avocations. The lists of Special and Common Jurors were published in the *Government Gazette* of the 6th inst., and number upwards of 1,000 persons.

(Daily Press, 27th March.)

There is more than one aspect of the election on Wednesday of two members of the Sanitary Board which calls for comment. Never before in the history of Hongkong have three hundred persons in the Colony been induced to take sufficient interest in the administrative affairs of the Colony as to attend the City Hall to record their votes in the election of representatives to the Sanitary Board. It had indeed come to be understood that such a thing as a popular election was unheard of in Hongkong, though as a matter of fact the right of the ratepayers to elect two representatives on the Sanitary Board has always existed. No popularly elected representative had sat for some time on the old Board simply because the ratepayers appeared utterly unconcerned about the matter. After the result of Wednesday's election we may surely say now *nous avons changé tout cela*.

While the community received with the utmost satisfaction the announcement that Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C., had been returned with such a handsome lead, the European residents of the Colony are certainly grievously disappointed that either Mr. HOOPER or Mr. HEWETT has not been returned as Mr. POLLOCK's colleague. It has been commonly understood that these two seats were intended for Europeans, since the Ordinance makes special provision for the appointment of two Chinese representatives on the Board; but, as we have previously pointed out, there is nothing in the Ordinance expressly preventing the seats being occupied by men of any race if only they can find sufficient supporters to vote for them. The election of Mr. RUMJAHN, it is very manifest is no less a surprise than a disappointment to the European community and this brings us to a consideration of a matter of some importance in these elections, namely: Who are the electors? According to the Ordinance they are (1) those ratepayers whose names appear on the Special and Common Jurors' Lists; and (2) those

ratepayers who are qualified to be placed thereon but who are excused on account of their occupations. Now the question we desire to ask is, Who are ratepayers in Hongkong? We are told that a ratepayer is not necessarily an occupier who pays directly the rates of the premises he occupies; his landlord may pay them, but this would not relieve the occupier of his obligation in the event of default on the part of the landlord; therefore, the occupier remains virtually the ratepayer. No objection can, of course, be taken to this, but do the authorities in Hongkong regard the lodger as a "ratepayer"? We believe the lodger was a determining factor in the election which took place on Wednesday. If the lodger is regarded in Hongkong as a ratepayer—we are not prepared to say that *ipso facto* he is not a ratepayer—then, at any rate, that ought to be plainly stated when any popular vote is taken in the future. At home the lodger is not regarded as a ratepayer, and doubtless many who would otherwise have voted on Wednesday had they been aware that a lodger here was regarded as a ratepayer, would have helped to swell the poll. On any future occasion of a similar nature, these points ought to be made clear, and moreover we would suggest the desirability of having an interval between the date of nomination and the date of election in the event of a poll. Had there been such an interval on the present occasion it would have enabled many misunderstandings to have been cleared up. Brief addresses by the candidates upon their nomination would probably have served a useful purpose, but as only two hours were allowed for nominations and balloting, time obviously could not be spared for speechifying. One consequence of this was that Mr. SHELTON HOOPER probably suffered somewhat, as in some quarters the feeling existed that he, if elected, would from the nature of his occupation be the representative of a class interest rather than of the general interests of the community. It was a mistake for anyone to have supposed that, and had there been an opportunity for speeches at the time of nomination Mr. HOOPER would probably have dissipated the notion.

One more observation may be made in reference to the Sanitary Board. Owing to the impending departure of Mr. OSBORNE from the Colony, the duty falls upon His Excellency the Governor of appointing a successor. Fortunately the election on Wednesday proves that there is no lack of interest felt by the community in the work of the Sanitary Board, and no lack of well-qualified residents willing to give the requisite time and attention to the duties. His Excellency therefore will experience no difficulty in filling up the vacancy.

CAMPBOR PRODUCTION IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 21st March.)

One of the great staple products of Formosa during its occupation by the Chinese was camphor, and a considerable proportion of the export was in the hands of foreign firms until after the cession of the island to Japan. Under Chinese administration there was a great deal of waste in the production, and we believe that the Japanese have been attempting the conservation of the camphor forests. The loss of this important export has been felt by China, and it is with no little satisfaction that the Chinese are able to announce that an experiment in the production of the tree in the province of Hunan has been attended with great success. It is stated that the

soil of Hunan has now been found to be well suited for the extensive cultivation of the camphor tree, and the inhabitants are enthusiastically planting it wherever they can. A Changsha letter reports that there are now, in consequence of this industrious planting, innumerable camphor trees several feet in diameter in the province, and it is expected that with care it will be possible for Hunan to soon be able to export annually several thousand piculs of the drug. This is a step in advance, and may perhaps go some distance to reconcile the Chinese Government to the loss of Formosa. The market is at present dependent chiefly upon the supply from Formosa, and in consequence the price is maintained at a high figure. Camphor is not the only product that might be introduced into the eighteen provinces, and the Viceroy might profitably institute enquiries as to what new products the soils and climates of their respective provinces are best calculated to reproduce. Now that tea has practically ceased to be an export except on a comparatively small scale, it would be well to endeavour to find out other articles of commerce that could be successful, and profitably raised to take its place as a paying export and to redress the balance of trade, now so largely against China. With the heavy indemnity to be paid to the Foreign Powers, it is a matter of vital import to China to find new articles of export. And unless sustained efforts be put forth in this direction, it is tolerably certain, spite of the foolish optimism of the opponents of a gold standard in China, that the exports of this great Empire will remain stationary, or at any rate barely maintain their present position.

GOLD IN MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 21st March.)

The old books of reference used to tell us that in Asia, and especially in its southern districts, there are many mines, streams, rivers and wastes which contain gold. Japan, Formosa, Ceylon, Java, Sumatra, Borneo and the Philippines were described as being rich in gold mines, but there was absolute silence as to the existence of the precious metal in China. That it is to be found in various parts of this great Empire is well known now-a-days, though little or nothing has been done to exploit it. Many years ago a number of Russian adventurers found what they described as rich gold fields in Manchuria, and calmly inaugurated an independent Republic of their own and claimed possession of the auriferous soil. The Republic, however did not last long, for it was broken up by the Chinese officials, and the gold miners, after making a desperate resistance, were compelled to quit the territory. Since the virtual occupation of Manchuria by Russia something more has been heard from time to time of gold discoveries there, and only about two years ago there was a big rush of adventurers over the Amur to seek the treasure which report said was to be found there in large quantities. The fever did not last long however. The discoveries of the precious metal were not so large as to warrant the rush, and it was even alleged that wily Chinese had "salted" the earth with the object of selling it to the 'cute speculator. We observe, however, that the gold fever has again broken out in this region, and the *Amursky Gazette* is the authority for the statement that gold in large quantities is being obtained on the right shore of the Amur. "As Manchuria is not yet completely under Russian jurisdiction," says this journal, "it is impossible to take any measures against the adventurers."

Gold, it is said, has been found in many places in "great abundance," and as much as 5lbs of gold is being obtained from about 35 cwts of earth. The gold obtained from the washings is bought by the Russians and Chinese, who are said to be giving good prices for it, and there is now, according to the accounts, such activity on the part of the gold-seekers that any attempt to drive them away from their workings would result in serious disorders. The gold-seekers we presume are chiefly Chinese, and it is interesting to recall the fact that it was the gold discoveries in California in the early forties that led to the steady immigration of Chinese into the United States to such an extent as to render restrictive legislation necessary. In the first six months of 1852 as many as ten thousand crossed the Pacific to claim part in the golden harvest, and as the Russian journal laments the impossibility of taking any measures against the adventurers, "as Manchuria is not yet completely under Russian jurisdiction," we infer that the report of gold discoveries in Manchuria is attracting the Chinese to the gold fields in even greater crowds. But that there is a fair sprinkling of Russians among them may be inferred from the statement that "large quantities of provisions are being sent from various places, to the gold fields, and spirits from Kharbin."

THE NEW TREATY.

(Daily Press, 24th March.)

General SHARRETS, who was the Special Commissioner of the United States for the revision of the China tariff has contributed to an American journal called the *American Asiatic* a short statement of his views concerning Sir JAMES MACKAY's Treaty with China. The General begins by declaring that he entertains "strong convictions regarding the commercial treaties which recently have been or are about to be negotiated with China." The Treaty between China and Great Britain will, he fears, if it becomes operative, not only prove abortive, but in the end retard the progress of reform in the Celestial Empire. The Treaty in its main objects may prove abortive, but even so, General SHARRETS does not supply any convincing reason why it should retard, rather than promote the progress of reform in China. While agreeing that the *lekin* system should be abolished, the American Commissioner does not believe it is practicable to wipe it out by a blow as provided in the British-Chinese Treaty. Nor does anybody else: not even Sir JAMES MACKAY himself, we imagine. Whether gradual extinction of the *lekin* tax would be preferable to immediate abolition, as General SHARRETS believes, is a question on which opinion may be divided, but for our part we are unable to see that any considerable advantage would be gained by proceeding gradually to abolish the tax. To get the Chinese Government to undertake that all barriers of whatever kind collecting *lekin* or such like dues or duties shall be permanently abolished on all roads, railways, and waterways in the eighteen provinces of China and the three Eastern provinces is a great achievement, and if the promise can be translated into action it will undoubtedly represent a great gain to trade. Moreover, it appears to us that the only hope of dealing with this problem successfully is to strike at the entire system. That the Treaty is open to a great deal of criticism we do not deny. Competent critics have attacked it on the ground that while the system of levying *lekin* and other dues

on goods at the place of production, in transit, and at destination is condemned as injurious to the interests of trade, the stipulations of the Treaty when carefully examined, actually provide for the levying of all three kinds of taxation. Whatever be the defects of the Agreement, the net result it seems to us must be a great gain to trade, as well as to the cause of reform in China, if the Chinese Government can be brought to perform all its obligations. General SHARRETT objects to the section of the Treaty which abolishes *lekin* because it makes no provision for the vast army of dependents which have grown up under the *lekin* system, and, therefore, the immediate abolition of the system would, he believes, lead to rebellion. "Opening up the country to trade, with resulting railroads, paralleling the waterways, would by peaceful competition eventually sound the death knell of unjust taxations." So General SHARRETT thinks, but the trader thinks otherwise. He perceives that the railroads would but afford additional opportunities for unjust exactions, unless there are in existence some such protective international agreement on the subject as the new British Treaty. The American Commissioner goes on to say that the development of China's mines and the building of railroads would give employment to those whose occupation is lost by changing conditions. That is a matter for the Chinese Government to consider. If the Government can be persuaded to recognise this obvious fact and to afford these opportunities, so much greater will be the gain to progress resulting from the Treaty which General SHARRETT condemns to failure.

The American Commissioner advocates Government monopoly of opium, a tax on salt at the point of production, an internal system of taxation by the Central Government instead of by separate provinces. But, he says, the treaties being negotiated separately by the different nations, each striving to gain trade advantages over the other, will never accomplish this. It scarcely needs to be remarked in reference to this that these treaties are certain to contain the most-favoured-nation clause, so that one nation is not likely to gain trade advantages over the other. It is easy enough to say that the Powers should combine and formulate a joint treaty acceptable to all, and which China would adopt and enforce. In the opinion of General SHARRETT such combined action is possible, and he adds the interesting information that while he was acting as the Commissioner for the United States he was approached by representatives of leading Powers with a proposition to formulate a treaty in co-operation with them. General SHARRETT urges that the United States Government should endeavour to bring about a combined treaty between China and the Powers "whereby the much-needed reforms will be assured to that country and impending bankruptcy averted." He expresses the opinion that an individual treaty between one country and China, however advantageous its terms, will be of no avail owing to the jealousy and opposition of other nations. The settlement of the tariff by a Joint Commission, General SHARRETT regards as indisputable evidence that trade differences could be harmonised in a joint treaty convention; but it seems to us that General SHARRETT himself by this contribution to the Press in which he expresses his disagreement with the main features of the British Convention goes a long way towards showing the impossibility of a joint treaty.

THE MAIL CONTRACTS.

(Daily Press, 26th March.)

It would appear that the notice which has been given to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company to terminate the mail contracts for India, the East and Australia at the end of January, 1905, was due to pressure from the Australian Colonies. When the Postmaster-General's declaration in the House of Commons that the necessary two years' notice had been given to the P. & O. Company was telegraphed to Australia, Sir E. BARTON, the Prime Minister, was interviewed on the subject, and he made the remark that "we [the parties interested] thought it would be best to determine the present agreement and let a new contract." We note that by this means it is hoped to get a quicker service to Australia, "and provision," declares the Prime Minister, "will have to be made to give effect to clause 16 of our Postal Act, which says that only white labour shall be employed on mail steamers." Sir EDMUND thinks this change can be effected without any trouble, but if we recollect aright, Sir THOMAS SUTHERLAND, the Chairman of the P. & O. Company, even now holds the opinion that the mail subsidy is not large enough, and if the Company has to replace the large number of Lascars in their service by white men, a very considerable increase in the subsidy will be required on that account alone. As far as the Far East is concerned in this matter, many of our readers may remember that more than a year ago a question was asked in the House of Commons as to whether the Government would consider the Siberian railway route when the present contracts expired. No doubt during the next two years, if the railway is shown to work satisfactorily and to uniformly come up to expectations as regards accelerated service, the route will not be overlooked. So far as we can remember, that in effect was the reply given at the time by the Postmaster-General. Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN has now made it known that the Government departments are studying future requirements of the mail services, and will give their decision at the earliest moment.

AMERICAN TRADE WITH CHINA.

(Daily Press, 23rd March.)

A year before the first overland railway in the United States was completed, a speaker at a banquet given in New York in honour of the Chinese Embassy said: "If there is present a merchant who expects 'to live thirty years and wishes his son 'succeeding him to amass a fortune, in 'comparison with which that of the Medici 'were poverty, let him build ships to run 'between China and our Pacific coast.' This was alluring advice certainly to give to New York merchants, but for some reason or other the merchants did not show themselves to be in a hurry to accept it. Thirty-five years have since passed, and still we see that less than ten per cent. of the foreign commerce of the United States is carried in American bottoms. It is only, however, in quite recent years that America has learnt the possibilities of the Asiatic trade, and become a serious competitor in the markets. In glancing through the commercial literature of the States one cannot but be struck by the prominence given to Pacific trade interests. Though this trade is small compared with the trade of the Atlantic and even of the Gulf port, it is one which appears to be growing very rapidly. In the year ending June 1902 the exports of the United States to Pacific ports

showed an increase in value of nearly \$18,000,000 compared with the returns of the previous year, and the imports an increase of more than \$5,000,000. It is facts like these that induce men to build ships, and seeing that there are yet immense possibilities of trade with Asia for America, no less than for all other commercial nations, it is not surprising that the incontrovertible proof of this which experience affords, should have given a flip to shipbuilding. It is stated that during the present year the American steamers to enter the Pacific coast Asiatic trade will have a total tonnage of 84,000 tons and the predicted increase of trans-Pacific tonnage within two years is 140,000. That prediction might stand some chance of realisation if the Isthmian Canal could become an accomplished fact in that time, but otherwise we are disposed to be almost as sceptical concerning it as about the enormous fortunes which were in the days of long ago prophesied for the American shipowner. Nevertheless the United States can well look forward to a large development of her trade in this part of the world. It is the line of least resistance and every mail brings evidence of the strenuous efforts which are being made to induce the Pacific coast States to press their advantage. In point of proximity to the markets of Asia, they are only excelled by Russia, and the Russians are not born traders, or they would have made far greater use of their advantages. Though all commercial peoples are more or less alive to the possibilities of trade in Asia, none are more insistent than the people of the United States. The amount of literature on the subject obtained from the Consuls, and from other sources and disseminated throughout the States is not equalled by any other country, and the sweet uses of this advertisement he who runs may read in the returns published by the Bureau of Statistics.

THE ADMIRALTY DOCK QUESTION.

IMPORTANT MOVEMENT TO SECURE ITS REMOVAL.

A meeting was held at the Hongkong Club on the 24th inst. with reference to the new Admiralty dock now in course of construction. About eighty members were present.

Hon F. SHAWAN moved that Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., be asked to take the chair. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Sir PAUL CHATER, C.M.G., on taking the chair, said—Mr. Shawan and gentlemen, as it is your wish that I should preside over the proceedings for which we are met, I shall be glad to do so and to promote as far as lies in my power, the object which one and all of us have in view. Doubtless some of you are aware that two years ago I made an attempt to secure for the Colony a continuous Praya, but unfortunately without success. It would be my hope, however, if rumour be correct that an opportunity for endeavouring to attain that object appears likely to offer. I shall therefore be glad to hear the views of any one present in reference to this matter. I need not enlarge on the importance of this question. I am sure it is the ardent desire of the whole community to see their city possess one unbroken sea frontage. (Applause.)

Hon. F. SHAWAN then addressed the meeting, which, he said, had been called to consider the advisability of making an effort to have the new Admiralty Dock removed from the Praya and Queen's Road, where, he thought every one agreed, it was entirely out of place. From information he had received, he understood that even the naval authorities would be willing to remove to another and a better site. He did not set up as a judge of these

matters, but it did not seem to him that it would be very difficult to find a better site, for a more inconvenient one than the present could not be found anywhere. He believed that not only the mercantile community but the Colonial Government and the military were dead against the works remaining where they were, so if it did nothing else the present agitation would strengthen the hands of the authorities all round. Under these circumstances, it seemed to him to be the bounden duty of the community to make a strong and determined effort to get the Dockyard removed from the centre of the city. This was only a preliminary meeting, and his idea was that the Chairman should simply take the sense of the meeting for or against the proposal, and then, if they were—as he felt sure they would be—unanimously in favour of agitating for the removal of the dockyard, they should elect a Committee of representative men to decide further action—either by forwarding a petition to the Home Government or by holding a public meeting to concentrate public opinion. Whatever they decided to do must be done quickly and heartily. Sir Paul Chater was with them, and had, he believed, a complete scheme ready to meet all the objection that might be raised by supporters of the present site, and he knew that their friend, Mr. William Danby, had all the details of this matter at his fingers' ends. This agitation might be a forlorn hope, though he did not think so; but anyhow let them go forward bravely with it, and if it be a forlorn hope, may it end as many forlorn hopes in our country's history had ended, by carrying everything before it. (Applause.)

On the motion of the Hon. R. SHEWAN, seconded by Mr. Justice WISE, the following gentlemen were then elected on a Committee for the purpose of bringing the views of the public in this matter before the proper authorities:—

Sir P. Chater (Chairman), Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. W. Poate, J. R. M. Smith, T. P. Cochran, H. E. Pollock, E. A. Hewett, W. Danby, A. G. Wood, Hon. G. Stewart, Hon. H. K. Kai, Messrs. H. N. Mody, D. E. Brown, E. W. Mitchell, Hon. R. Shewan, Messrs. H. E. Tomkins, G. Forbes, G. H. Medhurst, G. Balloch, and J. H. Lewis.

At a meeting of the Committee which was held at the conclusion of the general meeting, it was decided to ask His Excellency the Governor to consent to receive a deputation from the Committee for the purpose of an interchange of views being effected. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., was then chosen as Chairman of the Committee and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., as Honorary Secretary, and a sub-Committee was appointed from the General Committee, consisting of the Chairman and Messrs. R. Shewan, G. Stewart, W. Poate and E. A. Hewett, and the Hon. Secretary, for the purpose of drawing up a petition for presentation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies upon the subject of the removal of the Admiralty dock from its present site. It was also resolved to telegraph home a summary of that petition. It was further resolved that the Committee would defray any expenses which might be incurred in connection with the prosecution of the attempt to endeavour to persuade the authorities to consent to the removal of the new Admiralty dock from its present site.

DEPUTATION TO THE GOVERNOR.

H. E. the Governor Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., on Thursday received a deputation from the community with reference to the proposed removal of the Admiralty Dock from its present position. The interview took place in the Council Chamber, His Excellency being accompanied by Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary. The deputation was as follows:—Sir C. P. Chater (Chairman), Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. W. Poate, J. R. M. Smith, T. P. Cochran, H. E. Pollock, E. A. Hewett, W. Danby, A. G. Wood, Hon. G. Stewart, Messrs. D. E. Brown, E. W. Mitchell, Hon. R. Shewan, Messrs. H. E. Tomkins, A. Forbes, G. Balloch, and J. H. Lewis.

Sir PAUL CHATER, addressing His Excellency, said he proposed to lay before him what had happened with regard to the removal of the

Dock from where it is now to some other place. The public were beginning now to realise what a vital obstacle the Dock would be to the growth of the Colony if it was allowed to remain where it is now, and they had spontaneously arranged that a meeting should be called to discuss the question; and although only two days' notice was given, at this meeting no less than—in fact rather more than—100 gentlemen assembled, representing almost the whole of the commercial and shipping interests of the Colony, and decided unanimously that a petition should be drawn up and forwarded to the Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State through His Excellency's kind offices, and, it was hoped by the Committee, with His Excellency's support. The meeting not only decided that a petition should be drawn up and forwarded but that as soon as it was ready and handed to His Excellency, he should be asked to wire the substance of the petition to the Secretary of State. The reason for that was that there had been rumours for some time of differences existing between the naval and military authorities with regard to certain land connected with the Dock scheme. He understood also that it was likely that a Royal Commission might be appointed to investigate these matters and their object in asking His Excellency to telegraph the substance of the petition home was that in case the Commission was about to be appointed its scope might be extended so as to not only arrange matters between the Colonial Office, the War Office and the Navy but also to go into the question of the removal of the Dock from its present position to somewhere else. The Committee before proceeding to do anything on the subject decided to report to His Excellency exactly what had happened and see if he would help them in any way with regard to the drawing up of the petition. That was as far as they had gone. With regard to the obstacle that the Dock would be to the growth of the Colony, that was as well known to His Excellency as to the public here. The growth of the Colony eastwards had been stopped for many years, and would continue to be in that position; even although the tram-lines were going to be started, still he felt certain that the growth would not be anything like what it ought to be. He might point out that from Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's offices there was a mile or a mile and a half westwards where the land varied in value from \$25 up to \$45 per square foot. From Butterfield & Swire's offices this great Dock ran along to Arsenal Street, the very first block after that had been bought by the Navy, with huge buildings on the land, at about \$6 per foot. That in itself would show how this tremendous break—this great line of demarcation, so to speak, between the East and the West—was affecting the East. Then it had been well known to most people that there was one great objection which had been felt once before and would be felt again as the Dock went on. Probably His Excellency would remember a case brought forward in the Police Court by a resident in Macdonnell Road in respect of a nuisance. What was the nuisance? The nuisance was the noise made by a steam-hammer used for driving piles at the Naval Yard Extension. If that was a nuisance, how much more would it be when the Dock was working there fully? On a summer's night it would be almost unbearable.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think that was found not to be a nuisance.

Sir PAUL CHATER—No, sir; it was not found not to be a nuisance. But the case was withdrawn because, I think, the gentleman who brought it forward was a foreigner.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I do not think that can be entered into at all anyway. I remember the case perfectly.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY—If he had chosen to push his case I have no doubt he would have got a conviction, but he withdrew it.

Sir PAUL CHATER, continuing, said that at any rate the case was withdrawn and that was how the thing was closed. However, he might tell His Excellency that if this Dock was to be built where it is, the houses on Kennedy Road, Macdonnell Road and Bowen Road would be absolutely uninhabitable. It would be impossible for people to live in these houses. Why, he thought Government House and

Headquarter House would be worse still. These were the points so far as regards the inconvenience to the Colony. He was sure the Committee who were to draw up the petition would go into these points and they would only like to get His Excellency's support in the matter. His Excellency might probably say: If this Dock is to be stopped and removed, where will it be removed to? Well, there were three sites they had in view, and it was the idea of the Committee that they should draw up schemes to place before this Commission should it be appointed or before His Excellency. When the Commission came out he would point out the advantages of these sites over the present one. That, he thought, could be very easily arranged. They could give the Admiralty bigger sites and better sites in every respect and still with all that was wanted with regard to the water frontage. Then probably His Excellency might ask, and a good many people might naturally ask: What about the expenses that the Navy have gone into? They had thought of that. If he was rightly informed, he believed that the Navy so far had expended £250,000 to £300,000. The land which the Navy now occupy and which they would like to acquire from the War Office was worth a lot of money. He thought that some two years ago he gave the Governor an estimate of that land and he had no reason now to alter that estimate. If anything, he thought it was worth even more. If two of the sites that they proposed to offer to the Navy were accepted then the Colony would have to give these sites—they belonged mostly to the Government with perhaps one or two small resumptions—and they would get in turn what the Navy now occupy plus what is wanted from the Military. If they got that they could then afford to compensate the Navy perhaps for the expense they had incurred; but this amount, some of £250,000 or £300,000, although expended, was not lost, because suppose they took any one of these other sites and went on with the Dock scheme all the blocks and the timber for the cofferdam could be again used. The reclamation which had been done would come in useful for them for the continuation of the Praya; and the road having been widened to 75 feet, that would also make the land there more valuable. Therefore as far as compensation was concerned there was no doubt in his mind that some arrangement could be arrived at, and that would be a most important thing to do would be, he thought, to push on the appointment of the Commission and not only that but to give them the additional scope of going into this question of the removal of the Dock to some other site. He had been reminded that probably His Excellency would recollect that actions had been taken by residents in Morrison Hill Road close by there, against people for working iron workshops on the Praya and Queen's Road, East, and he believed the Government had also given notice to these people that that nuisance must be stopped. Well, if that was a nuisance, distant as it was from Queen's Road to Morrison Hill, surely a Dock right in front of the Harbour and working at night would be a terrible nuisance all the way up to the Peak almost. In fact he believed that where Chief Justice Goodman was living now when this nuisance was going on the noise was heard right up there. That was the great point. And not only that. The military were now building huge barracks, married quarters, hospital and so on, all along Kennedy Road. There it would be found to be a terrible nuisance if the Dock was working at night. It would be almost unbearable. These were the facts they had before them—the facts that the Committee would no doubt embody in their petition. They had thought it right to inform His Excellency of what was being done and to place these facts before him now. Perhaps His Excellency might help them in getting up the petition, might give them some information enabling them to embody it in their petition. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY asked if any other members of the deputation desired to make any remarks?

Hon. R. SHEWAN remarked on the difficulties which were said to have arisen in the construction of the Naval Dock on its present site, and assured His Excellency that all they were doing was to strengthen the hands of the Government, that they were not attempting to not against

the Government in any way, and that they were all heartily in accord with the object they had in view. (Applause.)

His Excellency said he was very glad to receive that important deputation from the community on the Dock. He might tell them at once that he was in absolute and entire sympathy with them in the views which they expressed (applause), he had always been so; as the published letters would show he had already more than once addressed the Imperial Government on the question. But now when they came to the question of the Dock, of course, as far as the Navy are concerned, no matter what the question of nuisance may be, no matter what the inconvenience to the public may be, if it were necessary that that Dock should be built in that position, he had no doubt that not only the members of the Committee but every member of the community in Hongkong would be prepared to bear any inconvenience if it was absolutely necessary for the well-being, safety and the comfort of His Majesty's Navy. (Applause.) As regarded the question of the differences at present between the Admiralty and the Military authorities, he did not know of any such differences. There had, of course, been consultations between them as to the possible division of land now held respectively by the Navy and Military authorities, and he thought he might say that, on broad lines, the Military and Naval authorities had either arrived at a working agreement, or were very nearly approaching to that point. The first point for them to consider, and the point to put before His Majesty's Government was the question, whether that Dock shall be removed from that position *in toto*. He had personally no doubt that if it was possible to remove the Dock from its present position, it would be not alone of great importance to this Colony, but it would be equally important for the welfare of His Majesty's Navy in the future, because he was quite clear that the present extension as projected at the Dockyard was not, and would not be, sufficient for the requirements of the Navy in the future if the idea remained as to the expansion of trade be verified and if the fact remained, as he thought it would remain, that we should probably always have a very considerable Navy engaged in the Far East. The question that presented itself was in a nutshell. When they put the question before His Majesty's Government, as they would in their petition—a petition which he hoped and believed he would be able to support most heartily in all its statements and all its suggestions (applause)—the two questions that they would have to consider were, first of all, whether, in the event of the removal of the Dock elsewhere a considerable amount of time might or might not be lost. They had already seen—he was speaking now as the man in the street—that it was quite clear it was to the advantage of His Majesty's service that the Dock should be completed as soon as possible. He knew nothing of the difficulties that had been shadowed by Mr. Shewan; but he assumed that, if there were such difficulties, it might help to solve the question, because he took it that, in the removal of the Dock to another position, that position would be such as would afford a sound bottom and facilities for the building of the Dock which did not appear, from Mr. Shewan's statement, to exist at the present moment. Apart from that question, and assuming that that could be answered, and that it could be demonstrated on enquiry that the Dock would and could probably be completed as quickly elsewhere as this Dock might be if it is gone on with, then came the question of the expense to the Imperial Government. That question had already been answered by the Committee, through their chairman, Sir Paul Chater, in his statement that, in their view, the Colony could afford to acquire for the Naval authorities the whole of their present holding, and to supply the Naval authorities with a site elsewhere. He had gone into that question a little with Sir Paul Chater and agreed with him. He thought his calculations were probably right, and that it would be for the benefit of this Colony that the Imperial Government should be assured that, if a change be made it would be made without expense to His Majesty's Government. He knew nothing of a proposed Commission for the

purpose of settling differences between the Military and Naval authorities and hardly thought, not from any official source or official knowledge, that Sir Paul Chater had been quite correctly led to believe. He knew that, in the minds of certain people, and certainly in his mind, was presented the advisability of sending out a Commission for the purpose of considering the question that they were approaching—the question as to the ultimate expansion of the Dockyard premises and the possibility of the removal of the Dock—because he did not think he was at all singular in the view that, while His Majesty's Navy is here primarily for the protection of the trade of the East, it was rather paradoxical that the protection of that trade of the East should be given in the great port of the East, the second port in the world, in such a manner as to practically strangle the expansion of the Colony, and interfere with the due expansion of the shipping trade. He was quite sure there were many people engaged in His Majesty's service—engaged in the Admiralty and engaged elsewhere, who were quite prepared to endorse that view. The whole question resolved itself into one—whether a suitable site which would be equally free from the possibility of an enemy's shell fire and would offer greater facilities, possibly of approach with good anchorage in the neighbourhood, could be obtained elsewhere. From what he knew of the harbour he believed they could assure the Imperial Government that such a site could be obtained elsewhere, and he earnestly hoped that the effect of their petition might be the removal of the Naval Dockyard from its present unsatisfactory position (applause), and the possibility that in the future, after he had left Hongkong he might some day have the great pleasure of reading that this great Praya, which had been extended up to the West, might be continued without any break to the Far East of the town. He had no doubt that it would be of enormous advantage to the town in the future. He thought it could be done, and agreed with them that it would be done without practically any expense to the Colony, and without expense to His Majesty's Government. If it could be shown that the factor of time could be satisfactorily met, and that a change to another position would enable His Majesty's Government to construct a Dock in something like the same time as that which must elapse before the present Dock is finished, he thought they might hopefully look for a favourable reception to their petition at home, as he had no doubt His Majesty's Government were as anxious whether the Admiralty, or the Colonial Office, or the War Office at home to meet the views of the Colony in every way in which they could be met where a fair statement was put before them, and where, as was probable, the interests of all are bound up. After all they must remember that in all the movements of His Majesty's forces naval and military, they were all primarily for the benefit of colonists in the East, and for the protection of trade. He had not much fear that if they could show that that fact or of time could be satisfactorily answered, he, himself, was of the hope, and the strongest hope, that the petition which they were about to prepare might have a favourable result. (Applause.) He promised them, so far as he could on those lines, he would support that petition by every means in his power. (Applause.)

Sir PAUL CHATER thanked His Excellency for having granted the interview and the proceedings terminated.

The *Sicle* (Paris) says:—To secure a real superiority over the British fleet it would be necessary for four Powers to combine. Even then the support which the Japanese fleet might give England in case of need would have to be taken into account.

The rifle barrels and locks which the police seized in a godown at Kennedytown last week, and which are computed to number several thousands, are now being broken up at the Central Police Station. The process does not tend to lessen the noise made by the Chinese who daily throng the precincts of the Magistracy.

SANITARY BOARD ELECTIONS.

A meeting of rat-pickers was held in the City Hall at 4 p.m. on the 25th inst. for the purpose of electing two representatives to the Sanitary Board. Mr. W. Norton Kysie, Registrar, Supreme Court, who presided, explained the business of the meeting and the procedure to be observed in conducting it, drawing attention to the fact that each elector had two votes instead of one as previously announced. He read out the names of the nominees, with their proposers and seconders. These were as follows:—

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., proposed by Mr. B. Layton, seconded by Mr. G. Balloch;
Mr. E. A. Hewett proposed by Mr. J. H. Lewis, seconded by Mr. E. W. Mitchell;
Mr. A. S. Hooper, proposed by Mr. E. Osborne, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cruickshank;
and
Mr. A. Ramjahn, proposed by Mr. J. Lemm, seconded by Mr. E. M. Hazland.

The proceedings were of a purely formal nature, and no speeches following the Registrar's remarks, the election was proceeded with.

The poll closed at six o'clock. Immediately afterwards the counting of the votes was begun. This operation lasted till nearly seven o'clock, when the Registrar announced the result as follows:—

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Mr. Pollock | ... | ... | ... | 225 |
| Mr. Ramjahn | ... | ... | ... | 141 |
| Mr. Hewett | ... | ... | ... | 121 |
| Mr. Hooper | ... | ... | ... | 105 |

The names of the successful candidates were received with hearty applause.

THE MURDER OF CONSTABLE EVANS.

SIX MEN SENTENCED TO DEATH.

We drew attention in our last issue to the fact that the atrocious crime of murdering Constable Evans remained unexpiated. We now learn that on Friday last a trial in connection with this matter took place in the Namboi Magistrate's yamen in the presence of Mr. H. E. Sly, the Vice-Consul at Canton, and as a result six men, including two sent from Hongkong, were sentenced to death. Six others—all very young men—were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. There was no question about the identity of the real murderers, as they were instantly recognised by the little daughter of Mr. Evans and by the boat-woman who was in the junk at the time.

We understand that the delay was due to a desire to ascertain whether any more men were implicated than those under arrest. The police as well as the Consul-General (Mr. J. Scott) are to be complimented on their success in bringing the miscreants to justice.

THE NEW TUNG WA HOSPITAL.

OPENING CEREMONY.

The new Tung Wa Hospital in Po Yan Street was opened on Thursday by H.E. the Governor, Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., and in preparation for the ceremony the old and new buildings were lavishly and tastefully decorated with flowers, potted plants, and bunting. Besides the Vice-regal party, which included His Excellency, Lady Blake, Miss Blake, and Sir John Keane, Bart. (Private Secretary to the Governor), there were present the Hon. F. H. May and Mrs. May, Lady Goodman, Commodore and Mrs. Robinson, Bishop Hoare, Mr. E. R. Bellios, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Rev. C. H. Hickling, Dr. Thomson, Dr. Atkinson, Dr. Gibson, Dr. Tearnse, Dr. Noble, Hon. C. W. Dickson, and Messrs. A. H. Reunie, E. M. Hazland, J. H. Craig, R. K. Leigh, A. S. Hooper, J. R. Michael, C. McI. Messer, J. Lemm, G. C. Anderson, F. Browne, A. Gibson, G. A. Woodcock, and a great number of representative Chinese, including Messrs. Fung Wa Chun, Lau Chu Pak, Ho Tung, and Ho Fook.

The proceedings began with the reading of his address to His Excellency by the Chairman of the Hospital, Mr. Tung, previous to which Lady Blake and Miss Blake were each presented with a handsome bouquet by Mr. Fung Wa Chun and Mr. Ho Tung.

Addressing His Excellency, Mr. LAU CHU PAK said—Spring now gives life to all things: the trees are putting out new shoots: a thousand tints of colour are vying with each other in beauty. Thus not only is the garden adorned with fresh loveliness, but the gardener also is encouraged to renewed effort. To-day, in this seasonable month of spring, our new hospital stands completed opposite to the old one. It is as if an old tree had put out a new branch, whose beauty is before our eyes. As we look at it our hearts are full of joy. Your Excellency, in coming here to-day to open this extension to our hospital, displays such interest in it that all Hongkong may know that we are met together not merely to admire a flower, but in the expectation of luxuriant fruit which will mature from the blossom. Let us then unite gladly in future efforts. The foundation-stone of this extension was laid on the 25th November, 1899. At that time the Government granted us the site and your Excellency honoured us by laying the foundation-stone. Since then three years have elapsed; winds and clouds have gathered and parted. We could scarcely hope that your Excellency, who had laid the foundation-stone, would also perform the opening ceremony. But nevertheless sowing and reaping have been done by the same hand. Now, when a man completes the work which he himself began, his affection for it is intensified. We venture to hope therefore that your Excellency is animated by the same sentiment. During the years that your Excellency's star has shone over Hongkong, all humane and charitable works, such as this hospital, have been steadily carried to completion under your Excellency's care. The whole Colony therefore prays for blessings upon your Excellency. It is my duty now to give you some details concerning the extension to our hospital. We have to thankfully acknowledge subscriptions from the Chinese in Hongkong and elsewhere to the amount of \$66,360.03, and from Europeans to the amount of \$20,016. The total sum subscribed was \$106,376.03. The cost of building was \$62,448 and the cost of the iron work was \$1,743.76. The architect's fee amounted to \$1,964. The new hospital contains one maternity ward, one surgery ward, two first-class wards and four general wards, all of them are bright, well-ventilated, and the convenience of patients has been carefully studied, as you can see without words of mine, and it will be possible to do away with the Ko Fong wards in the old hospital. So the Tung Wa Hospital has now a fresh attraction, and being more capacious than previously, it will prove a great and permanent benefit to Chinese in sickness. We trust that future benefactors will make further improvements, so that the high standard of the hospital may be maintained. Then your Excellency's kindness and interest in the hospital will not have been in vain.

In declaring the building open,

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Mr. Tung, ladies and gentlemen, I have come here with great pleasure to-day, and it is a gratification to me to see the completion, on which I congratulate you, of this valuable addition of the Tung Wa Hospital and having inspected it more than once during the building, I am in a position to congratulate you upon its excellent wards, and especially upon its maternity wards and its operating room. I need hardly, therefore, assure you of the pleasure with which I attend to-day to formally open this extension of the Tung Wa Hospital and to start it upon its beneficent work. I have listened to the statement made by the Chairman with great interest, and it is pleasing to find that so large a proportion of the cost has been subscribed by Europeans, for it shows that in charitable works as in business the races of the East and the West are working together with that co-operation and good-will that have, within the life of a man, raised this Colony from a fishermen's village, with a few huts, to the position of the second port in the world, in whose harbour the rich argosies of the earth find shelter and security, and within whose borders are found that personal liberty and equality before the law without which there can be no real prosperity or progress. I am glad to find that in the building of this extension, in the first place the Tung Wa Committee should do away with the Ko

Fong wards. The Committee have long acknowledged and seen with regret that these wards were unsuitable and were badly ventilated, and it is pleasant to feel that the poor women who were accommodated within those wards in the past will now be more suitably accommodated. I see before me many ladies and gentlemen who probably have never considered the scope of the work that has been done by the Tung Wa Committee and by this valuable institution. I may tell them that every year between two and three thousand patients are treated in this hospital, that here every man or woman entering the hospital, may elect whether he or she will be treated according to the Chinese method of treatment or to the European method. The wards are all the same, the beds are side by side, the conditions are identical, and therefore those who acquire are in a position to see which method of treatment offers the greatest prospect of recovery. Besides these thousands of patients who are accommodated every year within the walls of the hospital, a number—reaching, I think, 140,000—of out-patients are annually treated at the dispensary, which is situated at the opposite side of the street. More than that, this hospital not alone will take within its walls those who are sick and of whose recovery there may be hopes, it will receive the dying and it will bury the dead, and not alone that, for the poor who are not ill, but who have no place to shelter, are here taken in by this valuable society and accommodated for a time within the walls of the hospital. You will therefore understand how large is the measure of work done by this institution, and looking back upon the accounts of this Colony for several years, and remembering the condition of the city ten or fifteen years ago and now, I question if any factor that has brought to bear in the assuagement of misery in the City of Victoria has had a greater share in the good work than the Tung Wa Hospital. When laying the foundation of another extension which is being made by the Chinese to the plague hospital, a short time ago, I spoke of the difficulties that probably would be experienced in carrying out sanitary measures in the city. What the effect of those sanitary measures has been who can tell? But I then said that all the steps that were being taken were being taken, so far as we could see, for the benefit of the Chinese people, and that we were all doing what we thought and felt was for the best, and I asked the Chinese population to assist us in carrying out measures that must always be irksome and inconvenient to those upon whose houses those operations took place. I now take this public opportunity of thanking the Chinese people for the way in which they have responded to my request. This City of Victoria has been disinfected from one end to the other. There has been great inconvenience, but never have we had occasion to use anything more than a mere request. The people have listened to the advice of the influential Chinese; they have assisted the Government, and in no city in the world have the operations of Sanitary Boards been carried out with less friction and with greater co-operation from the inhabitants. For all this I thank the influential Chinese who have assisted the Government, and I thank the people for the way in which they have responded to the advice of their leaders. A new Public Health Bill has just been passed that will be far-reaching in its operations, and will, I hope, make a great change in the comfort and in the healthiness of the city in the future. One of the results of that Bill will be, I hope, to reduce the overcrowding in the city, and possibly to enable the Government to have more open spaces, so that the people will have some place possibly for recreation that is not covered with houses. We are now standing in the district of Taipingshan, which in 1894 was the very worst centre of the visitation of this plague, and at great expense the Government resumed a portion of the Taipingshan and swept it clear of these plague-stricken houses. From time to time there has been a question whether the Government shall not dispose of that land and have it again built upon with more houses. I have come to the conclusion that the greatest improvement in that open space between the new extension is the bright sunlight and the pure air of heaven, and it is

my intention to recommend to His Majesty's Government that the vacant space resumed in Taipingshan shall be made a people's garden. The health of the city cannot be placed for one instant in the scale against a mere question of dollars and cents, and I have no doubt that the community at large will approve of this decision. We are all aware of the efforts that are now being made to combat the two great diseases from which we have most suffered, and these are malaria and plague; and, throwing your eye back behind 1894, I rather think that of the two fearful diseases malaria is the worst. Over all these long years it has claimed its yearly tale of victims, and until the discovery made by Dr. Ross on the means of propagation by a particular kind of mosquito, we knew nothing about it further than the discovery of certain medicines which assisted in its cure. Now that we have discovered the source of this disease, it is the earnest desire of the Medical Department and of the Sanitary Board to prevent the disease by the destruction of mosquitoes. I know that ignorant people may think that the mosquito is a small thing, and may laugh at the idea of saving human life by the simple destruction of so very small a thing as a mosquito, but when they remember that the simple bite of this small insect, which they can hardly see without a magnifying glass, may cost the life of the father of a family or carry away the very best-loved children, the Chinese people will begin to understand the importance of destroying mosquitoes. I ask therefore the Chinese gentlemen and all the Chinese present to impress upon their friends and their acquaintances the importance of helping the Sanitary Board in its efforts to destroy mosquitoes. There is another matter with reference to plague that I take this opportunity of impressing upon the Chinese people. We know that of the people who go to hospital a large number die, and I cannot help thinking that many of those who have died of plague have died because the disease has not been taken in time. Now, under the new law if a person who feels himself ill will only apply in time to a doctor he can be treated in his own house and the Government will undertake that he may be treated by a Chinese doctor or an European doctor as he chooses, and the Government will undertake to find lodgings for the remaining people in the house, leaving him to be treated by his own people. I am convinced that many of these cases where poor men and women are left to die and their bodies afterwards left in the street—that many of these cases are allowed to run their fatal course because the people are afraid, first, because they would at once be taken to the hospital, and, second, because the house would be disinfected. Disinfected of course the house must be. My house has been disinfected and I don't like it (laughter), but any sensible man must see that if a mad dog were running about his house he would destroy it and that a mad dog is not one-tenth as dangerous as a plague germ once it makes its entrance to your body. What I have said as regards this reporting of cases of illness in the very beginning I know is only saying what the Sanitary Board would say themselves and are anxious about, and I wish to try the experiment. I want to feel that in some few cases at least you will come forward in cases of illness, and let that illness be taken in time and we will see whether a large proportion of lives can be saved by treating the people in their own houses and lodging the other inhabitants of the house elsewhere. We have tried many things and you have gone with me hand in hand. Now I want you to try this and see if it may or may not succeed. It now remains for me to declare the new wing of the hospital open and I shall presently do so with the earnest hope that dropping like the gentle dew of heaven the beneficial effects of this valuable institution may be felt for many a long year by the Chinese poor among us in the assuagement of their misery who when afflicted with disease will find extended to them that brotherly kindness and pity that are the true bonds of union, and help to make the whole world kin. (Applause.)

With a golden key that was handed to him His Excellency then opened the door of the new hospital which he formally declared open.

The inscription on the key is: "Presented by the Committee of the Tung Wa Hospital to

H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., on the occasion of the opening of the new hospital building. Hongkong, 26th March, 1903.

THE NEW BUILDING.

The new building is a very handsome structure, situated opposite the Tung Wa Hospital, of which it will form an extension. It is bounded on its four sides by Station Street, Market Street, Pound Lane and Po Yan Street. The building consists of three blocks on different levels. First there is the administrative block with central hall, doctors' rooms, consulting room and office on the ground floor, and operating room with four private single wards for surgical cases on the upper floor. The operating room is lighted from the roof and is fitted with all the most modern requirements. Downstairs, the central hall is a finely fitted apartment, laid with marble tiles; the walls are done with green-faced brick and there are several beautiful Chinese columns. The second block consists of two 7-bedded wards on the ground floor and two corresponding wards above, making 28 beds in this portion of the building. In the third block there is one large ward of 18 beds on the ground floor and a similar ward on the upper floor. There is thus a total accommodation of 64 beds independently of the surgical wards. In addition to these there are attendants' rooms, hospital kitchens, lavatories, and all the essentials of a complete modern hospital. Communication from one block to another is provided by covered ways. The building itself is of a very substantial nature and does credit to the architects, Messrs. Leigh & Orange. No expense has been spared to make the institution as perfect as modern medical and surgical science can make it; the isolation of the wards and the general arrangements are alike admirable. About \$70,000, exclusive of the cost of the site which is part of the Taipingshan resumption and was granted free by the Government, has been spent on the new hospital.

ODD VOLUMES LECTURE IN CITY HALL.

REV. E. J. HARDY ON "MARRIAGE."

Under the auspices of the Odd Volumes Society, Rev. E. J. Hardy, Chaplain to H.M. Forces, lectured on "Marriage," in the City (St. Andrew's) Hall on the 20th inst. H.E. Major-General Sir William J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., presided over a large audience which included Lady Blake, Sir John Keane (Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor), and Lady Gascoigne.

H.E. Major-General GASCOIGNE in a few appropriate words introduced the lecturer.

The lecturer commenced his subject by saying that a gentleman had but the day before commented on marriage by saying that the worst thing about it was that once you had taken it on you had to go on with it. (Laughter.) Perhaps that might also be said of the lecture, but if anyone felt bored he could follow the example of the actors killed on the Chinese stage—simply walk away. (Renewed laughter.) Marriage, the rev. gentleman continued, was a very serious subject, and therefore if he introduced any anecdotes that made people laugh he did so only to relieve the almost awful solemnity of the subject. There were people who laughed and grinned when matrimony was mentioned. He never could understand their position. He would far sooner laugh at death than at matrimony because in this world death was the end of all things but matrimony was the beginning and therefore far more solemn. There was only one thing more solemn on the face of this earth than marriage and that was of course—not to be married. (Laughter and applause.) It was indeed a solemn thing. Then why should people run their heads into such a noose? That led to the discussion of the question—Did it contain more happiness or more misery? You could not reason it out by the logical intellect. The only way to come to a conclusion was to fall in love. Even Socrates was unable to think it out. To the members of the Odd Volumes Society he might state that Franklin had said: what was a married man or woman but an odd volume, not complete until the other volume was added. (Laughter.) Some people made marriage a

school for scandal instead of a school for Christian religion. A man who had been married three times said that his first wife coerced him of romance, his second taught him humility, and his third made him a philosopher. It was surely worth being married three times to acquire such a liberal education as that. (Laughter.) Marriage was an experiment that required preparation before venturing to try it, and that preparation should begin from the earliest years. He could never see a boy behaving rudely towards his parents, the lecturer said, without thinking of the possible fate of some lady in the future, and the youth who spent his money in standing treat to every fool who clapped him on the back and called him "old man," was certainly not likely to prove a great success in matrimony. Marriage was said to be expensive but it was rather the other way about and, Mr. Hardy said, he often wondered how a young man could afford to remain single. If a man had a short purse he must select a wife with a slender waist. (Laughter.) At what age should a man marry? Well, he would say somewhere between 25 and 30. If a man remained a bachelor after 30 he would probably remain single till 60 and then propose all round to everything in petticoats. It was not natural for a girl to be marrying an elderly man. As to the age at which ladies should marry, he would not burn his fingers in discussing that question. All he would say was that some were not worth looking at after 30 and there were quite as many not worth speaking to before 25. (Laughter and applause.) Do not marry a child; neither marry an old woman. As to the principle of choice, he believed in love marriages.

Tell me where is fancy bred:

Or in the heart or in the head?

Fancy as used by Shakespeare here was love, and the true answer to that question was: "In the heart, not in the head." That was Nature's answer. The woman a man should marry was the one that complemented or filled up his nature. Pass her over for somebody else, for one richer, for a better match, and that man would be as miserable as his dirty little soul. (Applause.) It was said beauty was only skin deep. He once heard a good-looking Irish girl told that, and her reply was, "Yes; but ugliness goes into the bone." (Laughter and applause.) Beauty was the outward and visible sign of health, which was important to success in matrimony. Outward beauty was what covered beauty within, the beauty of character. And now as to character in marriage. He did not believe in a woman marrying a man in a missionary spirit, hoping to reform him. Then, what more destroyed the happiness of a home than bad temper. Again it was said, "men are deceivers ever." Well, some women could do a little in that way. (Applause.) It was useless to try to get everything. The man who would not marry until he got perfection must necessarily remain unmarried. He was a sour grape hanging on the tree of obstinacy, and the only thing to be said in his favour was that he had missed the opportunity of making some woman miserable. If all the men there were to write an account of how they proposed to their wives, and how the ladies met them half-way, it would make an interesting chapter on human nature. Women were different creatures, but unless they did go half-way no man would ever dare propose to them. (Laughter.) The husband claimed the credit of supporting the wife, but in her sweet womanliness it was the wife who supported the husband. Following the honeymoon after a couple had faced the altar came the calm settledness of married life. There should be no nagging, no "last word." Marriage should be a sweet, harmonious song, like one of Mendelssohn's without words. Husband and wife should treat each other politely, in a more Christian spirit, should bear and forbear, should tolerate each other, keeping in view the hope of that perfect marriage day which we all as Christians looked forward to and hoped for. (Applause.)

H.E. Major-General GASCOIGNE invited remarks, and asked the ladies to join in the discussion. There was no response and he attributed this to diffidence rather than to lack of appreciation of the able lecture listened to.

Continuing his remarks, His EXCELLENCY said that if they had not known it before they

had now learned that marriage was a lottery. Marriage, however, he took it, was a contract as strict and as binding as any contract in ordinary life, and if the parties concerned brought to bear upon marriage the same interest and intention to give and take which the law compelled them to in an ordinary contract there would be very few failures. There was no doubt whatever that in every profession of life the companionship of a good woman was of the utmost value to a man, and on the other hand the companionship of a strong, good, able man must be a great help and assistance to a woman. To sum up, wait until one comes across the right person; let him be sure the motive which prompted him was not unworthy; do not let him look too closely into things—how much one could afford one way or another; but let one's choice be the right one and he was sure that choice would be a success. (Applause.) He then called for a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

This was cordially given and was followed by one for His Excellency, on the call of Professor SHARP.

The meeting then dispersed.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 20th March.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AN ABSCONDER.

A case, the last on the calendar, was called, in which Ling Ki was charged with uttering a false receipt.

The accused was not present and His Lordship directed that his name be cried three times at the door of the Court. This was done, but there was no response on the part of the defendant.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, was in Court (instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor) to undertake the defence if his client had been present.

His Lordship—This is a case where a man has been let out on bail and has absconded. What is the amount?

The Attorney-General—\$10,000 altogether, my Lord, of which \$5,000 was for himself.

His Lordship—Well, that is only about £400, not very much for a rich man. The only course will be to let the recognisances be escheated, see that the bond is put in force, and let a warrant be issued for his apprehension. I suppose the bail bond is in due form?

The Deputy Registrar—Yes, my Lord; properly signed and attested.

His Lordship—He was charged with falsifying a receipt for coal?

The Attorney-General—With altering the amount of coal he had delivered. The coal was delivered short and the person who received it wrote on the receipt the fact that the coal was so much short when received. That was rubbed out.

His Lordship—He was trying to get full pay for a short supply. Well, we cannot go on without the principal in the case.

Mr. Slade—We are quite ready, my Lord, if it could be done.

His Lordship—Yes, they always are in such cases. Gentlemen of the jury, I am sorry you have no case to try this morning, but I have no doubt you will be able to bear with it. This concludes the Sessions and you are discharged. The Court rose.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

MONKEY-LENDING INDIANS.

Several cases were brought, in which Indians sued for money lent on promissory notes and I.O.U.'s. In one case his Lordship was satisfied that interest had already been paid sufficiently, and granted judgment for the debt and costs to be paid in instalments of \$15 per month. In another case the plaintiff claimed \$150 and stated that he had advanced the full amount without interest. Defendant did not appear. His Lordship remarked that he could see no

other way, but to give judgment for the full amount with costs; but he was sorry defendant had not appeared.

The Court afterwards adjourned.

Monday, 23rd March.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE)

A LAND DISPUTE.

Li Ki Tong, merchant, 5, Glenealy Road, made an application for leave to appeal against a decision of the Land Court, of 10th January, disallowing his claim to certain land at Sam-shui-po marked as B.F. Serial No. 1,491, Survey District No. 4.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. Wei On of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors) appeared in support of the application. His Lordship, he said, would perhaps remember that application was made on 22nd January last and upon that occasion his Lordship directed the application to stand over to enable the notes of the evidence to be copied, and an adjournment was made for another month. The application now came on for hearing. The point seemed to be very simple. Mr. Li Ki Tong claimed this land and he understood there were other claimants in respect of parts of it. The whole of the claims were disallowed by the Land Court and it was surmised by his client that the reason for the Land Court's decision was that the land referred to was below high-water mark and, that being so, it might be thought it was consequently the property of the Crown. If that was the reason, the matter was a very important one which must be argued sooner or later in that Court. If that was not the reason, it seemed to him that this claimant was entitled to have some reason given for the decision of the Land Court. No reason of any kind had been assigned. A deed from the vendor of the land to his client was produced in the Land Court and it was also proved that the original purchaser—

His Lordship—I suppose all this is upon affidavit?

Mr. Morgan Phillips—No; I apprehend that no affidavits are necessary.

His Lordship—Certainly; I do not hear statements not supported by affidavits. A man can say anything.

Mr. Morgan Phillips contended that it was not necessary to file an affidavit when in the Land Court no reasons were given for the decision. His client was entitled to have reasons given so that he might be advised whether he had a case for appeal or not. His simple application therefore was made on these grounds:

His Lordship—What affidavits have you filed?

Mr. Morgan Phillips—The certificate of value. That is the simple case. The claim was dismissed and there were no reasons given.

His Lordship—They do not give written judgments in the Land Court.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—But there were no reasons given.

His Lordship—I am sorry I do not see my way to grant leave in this case. What happened in this case was as follows:—The judgment of the Land Court was given on 10th January, 1903. By section 16 of Ordinance No. 18 of 1900, the claimant, being dissatisfied with the decision, and the value of the claim being over \$5,000, was entitled to apply for leave to appeal, such application to be made within 14 days from the date of the decision. On 22nd January an application for leave to appeal was made, but the parties not being ready to proceed fully that day I allowed the further hearing of the application to be adjourned till 23rd February, 1903. Shortly before that date an *ex parte* summons was taken out asking for further time and that I should fix the hearing at a date one month later than 23rd February. This application was supported by an affidavit showing that there were copies of some further notes required. That application was granted, and accordingly to-day (23rd March) was fixed for the hearing. The party must have had the notes of evidence for at least three or four weeks and if he had any cause to complain of the decision disallow-

ing the claimant's claim there was plenty of time for him to have made an affidavit setting out in what way any injustice had been done to him and at least setting out what his own *prima facie* title to the land in question was. Nothing, however, appears to have been done till the afternoon of Friday last when a letter was sent to the Deputy Registrar asking for another adjournment. That was not a proper course to take.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—I am told, your Lordship, that the letter was sent at the request of the Deputy Registrar.

The Deputy Registrar (Mr. A. Seth)—Not at the request of the Deputy Registrar. Mr. Wei On came to me and wanted the Chief Justice to alter the date of the hearing. I said, "You must give me something to go upon. If you write me a letter I will place it before the Chief Justice and see what his Lordship says." I did not instruct him.

His Lordship—When the Court has fixed the hearing for a special day, if further adjournment is required, formal application by summons or motion supported by proper affidavits should be made. Neither can I take judicial notice of an informal application by counsel to me in Chambers, for although it always affords me pleasure to see counsel on any private matter, if they call upon me with regard to judicial matters there should be some proper application pending before me. In these circumstances Mr. Morgan Phillips comes before me to-day and makes formal application for leave to appeal. His application shows no grounds and it is not supported by any affidavit showing what, *prima facie*, may appear to be some mistake or error of the Court below or any injustice done him; nor is there even an affidavit showing upon what facts his claim is based. That being so I must decline to grant leave to appeal and I do not think I should be acting fairly to those in whose favour the decision of the Land Court was if without some grounds shown I put upon them the burden of becoming litigants in an appeal involving it may be considerable expense.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—There is no successful claimant.

His Lordship—You said the Crown. All the land belongs to the Crown if it does not belong to anybody else.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—Possibly other claimants may come forward.

His Lordship—I have no preference for the Crown claim before any other claim. This is the first I have heard about there being a Crown claim.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—I do not know that there is; it was simply a conjecture on my part.

His Lordship—I do not know either. It only shows us that we are left in such a cloudy atmosphere that we do not know what the claimant's claim is. If Mr. Morgan Phillips had shown, even *prima facie*, that any injustice had been done to his client, even some apparent injustice which required explanation, and so justified leave to appeal being given, it would have been another matter. When I am asked to grant leave to appeal from a decision of the Land Court some good reason should be shown me and the facts should be supported by affidavit. It was not intended by the section of the New Territories Land Court Ordinance allowing application to be made for leave to appeal that a person should appeal simply to procure a copy of all the notes, often very voluminous, taken by the Land Court and to get a copy of the grounds of the Land Court's decision in order to see whether under a microscopic scrutiny by counsel some peg could be discovered on which to hang an appeal. I must refuse the application.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—I apprehend that further affidavits might have been filed if leave to appeal had been given.

His Lordship—It is a very good safeguard—the application to the Chief Justice for leave to appeal. It is not a matter of course granting leave to appeal. If it were, it would be a great injustice. If I grant leave to appeal without any reason shown, from that time forward the other party in any case must either lose his land or become a litigant; and we know perfectly well that when you get notes of 100 foolscap sheets of type-written matter there must be very large expenses in working up a case. It would pay a rich man (who had got land claims) exceedingly well to appeal in every

case decided against him because he would put the other side to such vast expense in fighting the case in Court that the latter says, "I would rather give up my land." Whenever a man can show me that the Land Court has done an injustice I shall give leave to appeal.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—But no reason was given for the decision of the Land Court.

His Lordship—I cannot grant leave here. You have done your best, Mr. Phillips; it is not your fault. I have no doubt the fault lies with the claimant or those instructed by him. Unless they have the proper straw they cannot make the bricks.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—So your Lordship does not propose to hear me further?

His Lordship—I am afraid I must deprive myself of that pleasure. I do not think it would serve any useful purpose. I may say that I see this same gentleman did the same thing the other day—got Mr. Slade to make an application and got leave up to 16th April to do that which he should have done in the 14 days allowed. I went very much out of my way in granting that.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—The delay here was largely due to the getting of the notes.

His Lordship—I am with you on that matter. I quite understand you could not get the notes in the 14 days and it was quite reasonable to ask for an extension of time in order that you might get them, but you have already had two extensions of at least a month each.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 25th March.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

DISPUTE ABOUT A JUNK.

Leung Shi, described as a single woman, living at 17, Hollywood Road, obtained judgment on 13th February against Ho Wong, owner of the Tung Tak Li junk, No. 45, for \$515 principal and interest on money lent. After judgment was given in her favour Leung Shi issued a writ of execution and seized the junk. Subsequently the Ho Tung Hop issued an inter-pleader summons claiming the junk to be theirs. Mr. John Hays of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors, who appeared for the claimants in the writ and withdrew the case as it was stated in evidence by Ho Shek Tai, master of the Ho Tung Hop, that the money with which the junk was bought belonged to his father's estate, to which no lease of administration had been taken out.

The claimants having complied with the requirements regarding the lease of the estate brought another inter-pleader summons. Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, appeared for the execution creditor. After hearing certain evidence,

His Lordship made an adjournment as the claimant's solicitor was not present, and in respect of that allowed the execution creditor the expenses of the day.

Thursday, 26th March.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE)

"AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE."

Lui Knt Wan, described as sole surviving partner of the Wing On firm, carrying on business in Jervois Street, applied for a receiving order against himself and the firm and asked that a manager be appointed for the business.

Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton of Messrs. Mounsey & Brutton, solicitors, appeared in support of the application. The assets, he said, exceeded the liabilities, but execution had been issued in judgment in six summary suits and the stock in trade had been seized and was now in possession of the bailiff. The sale of the stock in trade had been postponed until the hearing of this application, by arrangement with Mr. d'Almada e Castro for the execution creditor. The business was lucrative one. He asked his Lordship to grant the application and appoint a manager of the concern.

His Lordship remarked that he could not understand the application. Applicant was a man with \$15,000, according to his own showing and yet apparently he did not pay his debts. It was in consequence of this that the six creditors brought actions against him in the Summary Court and they recovered judgment and took out execution. They were *prima facie* entitled to the fruits of their judgment.

Mr. Brutton said they would get paid.

His Lordship replied that it was a puzzle to him why he did not pay.

Mr. Brutton remarked that it had been a puzzle to him also. The man was really not capable of managing his own affairs.

His Lordship said he must then as a matter of fact be off his head; but there was nothing of that in the affidavits. Why should not the creditors sell the goods? It was an exceedingly annoying thing for the creditors, after taking the trouble of going into the Summary Court, to find the applicant going behind their backs and snapping his fingers at them by going into the Bankruptcy Court.

Mr. Brutton repeated that the creditors would be paid.

His Lordship said it was very difficult now-a-days to know when to believe affidavits. If the man had the money why did he not pay? Who was now managing the business?

Lui Kut Wan was put into the witness-box to be examined, but he showed such marked inability to understand what was wanted of him that

His Lordship stopped the examination and said he thought he had better give a receiving order. This was a most extraordinary case. The witness did not seem to know what he was about. His Lordship appointed Mr. Bruce Shepherd official receiver, and left it to him to apply for a manager for the business if he thought it necessary.

The Court adjourned.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A STEAMSHIP CHARTER DISPUTE.

Tam Long Chuen and another, ship charterers carrying on business in co-partnership at 72B, Des Voeux Road Central, sue J. E. von der Ohe for damages, the action arising out of the charter by the plaintiffs of the steamer *Sleipner*. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley of Messrs. Dennys & Bowley, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. I. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. C. C. Master of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors), was for the defendant.

The plaintiffs stated in their pleadings that the defendant was a shipowner of Bergen, Norway, and was at the time referred to owner of the s.s. *Sleipner*. On 3rd September, 1901, a charter party was entered into between the plaintiffs and the East Asiatic Trading Co., as agents for the defendant and for the captain of the *Sleipner*, whereby it was agreed that the vessel should be chartered by the plaintiffs for a period of twelve months. One of the conditions of the charter was that the *Sleipner's* speed should be about 9 knots an hour in fair weather on a consumption of about 11 tons of the best Cardiff coal a day. The ship was taken over on 26th January and she subsequently made several voyages under the charter party. But her speed was not as stipulated for in the charter party, nor did it approximate to that speed; and the plaintiffs in consequence suffered serious inconvenience and loss. By reason of the *Sleipner's* failure to comply with the charter party the plaintiffs on 1st July cancelled the same.

The defendant in his answers denied that there had been any breach of the condition in the charter party as to the speed of the *Sleipner* and stated that if at any time during the continuance of the charter party the *Sleipner* failed to steam as stipulated at about 9 knots an hour when it was necessary to do so such failure was due to bad weather and the inferior quality of the bunker coals supplied to the ship by the plaintiffs. Defendant further stated that the alleged failure to conform to the speed condition, and particularly on a voyage from Hongkong to Manila and back, covering the period from 31st May to 27th June, was caused by (in

addition to the reasons stated) the foul condition of *Sleipner's* bottom and other defects in the rudder and propeller which were not known to those in charge of the *Sleipner*. The plaintiff, during the continuance of the charter party did not require the *Sleipner* to be docked so as to permit of her bottom being cleansed as was necessary under the warranty of good condition set forth in the charter party; and particularly on or about 26th May, 1902, refused to allow the *Sleipner* to be docked for that purpose although requested by those in charge of the said ship. Defendant did not admit that the plaintiffs had suffered any loss or damage by the alleged failure to perform the condition as to speed and stated that if the *Sleipner* did fail such failure did not entitle plaintiffs to cancel the charter party. Defendant in consequence had suffered loss and asked leave to counter-claim.

Mr. Sharp, K.C., having read the pleadings and answers, said that the case for the plaintiffs was that the steamship failed to comply with the charter party and that they were therefore entitled to damages.

His Lordship remarked that there seemed to be a point in law as to whether, assuming that the speed was not approximately what was stipulated in the charter party, that authorised cancellation, and then there would be questions of fact which he would have to deal with as a jury.

Mr. Sharp said it lay with him to show substantial failure to comply with the charter party.

His Lordship—You say you cancelled it.

Mr. Sharp—Yes; we admit we cancelled it. Counsel went on to open the case at some length.

Evidence was taken and the Court afterwards adjourned.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD.

The 14th ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held in the offices of the general managers (Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co.) on on the 21st inst. Hon. R. Shewan presided, and the others present were Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Hon. C. W. Dickson, Dr. J. W. Noble, and Mr. C. E. Ewens (consulting committee), Messrs. N. H. Rutherford (secretary), G. Murray Bain, E. A. Hewett, E. Owen, J. R. Michael, P. C. Potts, J. Orange, J. Fredericks, C. A. Tomes, A. Babington, S. J. Joseph, T. H. Reid, Fung Wa Chun, Lum Cheung, and Chan Pan.

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days past, it is not necessary to read them now. The net profit for the year is some \$36,000 above that of the previous year, so we recommend raising the dividend from 10 to 12 per cent., that is paying away \$20,000 more this year, which we trust will meet with your approval. Twelve per cent. is a very fair dividend, and until the Company had reduced its present indebtedness, I do not think we should increase this rate. The gross profit, less interest, is nearly \$249,000, and no doubt the question has arisen in the minds of some shareholders what has become of this profit, and why is our debt to our banks still some \$75,000 more than last year? Of course, the accounts show exactly what has become of the money, but I will explain it shortly now. These two items, the gross profit and the increase in overdraft, amount to nearly \$315,000, and are roughly accounted for as follows, viz:—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Last year's dividend ... | \$10,000 |
| Spent on additions ... | 106,500 |
| Increased value of stock on hand ... | 81,000 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Increase of sundry debtors, less sundry creditors ... | 26,500—\$314,000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

At last year's meeting, I told you that we did not expect to spend more than about \$50,000 altogether on the two factories. You will see that we spent \$79,000; the difference is simply the cost of a second Cumber Dryer, which we found absolutely necessary to assist us in drying the increased quantities of raw material. This year, we estimate we shall have to spend about \$26,000 at Macao, and about \$40,000 at Hok On, as with an increasing

output we shall require much more accommodation in the shape of a shed for the burnt clinker and of bins for storing the finished cement, our contract with the Admiralty Dock contractor requiring special bins to be set aside for their stocks when tested. It affords me much pleasure to tell you that with greater knowledge and experience we are producing much more clinker from our kilns than we ever anticipated, and it is just possible that this increase, which is, of course, a very satisfactory feature, may necessitate additional grinding machinery, the cost of which we estimate at from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Of course we shall not incur this extra outlay unless absolutely necessary, but we cannot wait till all the kilns are burning before putting the work in hand, and I mention it now as prospects are beginning to point to the possibility of the machinery being required before the year is out. All depends on our supplies of raw material, and that brings me to our old trouble, the difficulty of obtaining stone. It is not the scarcity of material that we suffer from, but the scarcity of transport. Some of the largest quarries are situated where boats can only reach them during the wet season, there being little or no water at other time, and last year was unfortunately the driest known in that particular district. We have done everything we can by advancing money to contractors and even by having boats built of our own to ensure a larger supply this season, and we have also used every means to find other quarries situated in more accessible places, where boats can load all the year round. We have had an anxious time obtaining sufficient supplies during the past year for even a limited number of kilns and our stock of stone at the moment is practically nil, but our efforts to find new places seem to be having results at last, and we have now some hope of securing larger supplies. This question of raw material, as was the case in the previous year, has been our chief worry; for the disposal of our cement on the other hand has given us little trouble. The demand has been good all round, and the fall in exchange during the year only worked in our favour and enabled us to raise our prices. As you know, we have two good contracts running, both of which have been increased since they were originally made, and we have other important ones in view. The quality of our cement remains unrivalled; under a rigid specification the British Admiralty have not questioned an ounce of it, and their Inspector when out here pronounced the cement blocks made of it to be the finest he had ever seen. (Applause) I think, therefore, gentlemen, you may fairly congratulate yourselves on the present position of your undertaking and on its future prospects. The financial position might, perhaps, be better; we are still spending money on capital account, but it is money spent to good purpose and returns to us in the shape of larger profit, and I do not think that after the further onlays I have mentioned, we shall require to do anything more in the way of further additions and improvements to the present installation, unless the demand should increase to a much greater extent than we at present anticipate. Our debt to our bankers is large, and will be increased by \$120,000 more on payment of the dividend, and if, as we hope to do, we succeed in accumulating a large reserve of raw material, it will be still larger; but our business is sound, and our assets are all good, so there need be no anxiety on that score. As for the brick and tile works at Deepwater Bay, we are still hopeful of making this into a good business. The results were very poor last year, but we took advantage of the confusion the factory was thrown into first by an unprecedentedly heavy rainstorm and then by typhoons, to reorganise the whole system. We replaced the old engine by one which we bought cheaply out here and added another boiler, which we also got secondhand. We extended the machine and drying shed, altering the arrangement of the plant, and adding a new brick and tile machine which we ordered from home, and we have just completed a new coolie house, on the hill, overlooking the works which, we trust, will stop the great amount of sickness that has prevailed amongst the coolies while living over the clay pit on the low ground. To increase our output and reduce the cost of production, we shall

build, this year, two more brick kilns, one pipe kiln and order another mixing pan, which we estimate will cost altogether something under \$10,000. You must bear in mind that besides the damage by storms, we lost at least two months' work, and under such circumstances you will see we could hardly expect better results than those now shown. I know of nothing else that I can usefully add, and I now beg to move that the report and accounts as presented to this meeting be adopted and passed. When this has been seconded, I shall be glad to hear any remarks from shareholders. (Applause.)

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—I have great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and the passing of the accounts.

There were no other remarks, and the CHAIRMAN put the proposition, which was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL moved the re-election of the Consulting Committee—Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Hon. C. W. Dickson, M. C. Ewens and Dr. J. W. Noble.

Mr. T. H. REID seconded, and the motion was agreed to without opposition.

Mr. E. A. HEWET moved the re-election of the auditors, Mr. T. Arnold and Mr. W. H. Potts, and the proposal, which was seconded by Mr. J. ORANGE, was carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I am much obliged to you for your attendance.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL—I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the general managers for the very satisfactory accounts they have submitted to the shareholders. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at noon on Thursday at the offices of the general managers, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys & Son, 38, Queen's Road Central. Mr. Hart Buck (chairman) presided and the others present were Messrs. A. H. Mancell, C. Ewens, A. G. Wood, H. Humphreys, Ho Fook, Ho Tung, Captain Clarke, and Mr. J. L. Cotton (secretary).

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, you have been called together to consider what has now become a very important question to this Company, viz., that of fire insurance; and to pass, if you approve, the resolutions in connection therewith, which your general managers and directors have adopted subject to your confirmation. I shall be glad to have the opinions and votes of shareholders present on the matter, but before doing so, it would be as well to place before you as concisely as possible the reasons which influenced your Board in coming to their decision. As you are doubtless aware, the fire insurance companies have lately raised their rates all round 25 per cent. With the new rates in force, some of your Chinese property will give you a net return of less than 6 per cent. per annum, and you may the more readily understand the position when I tell you, that in some cases the annual premiums now charged are equivalent to two months' gross rentals. If insurance companies refused to take risks on Chinese stock-in-trade, there is no reason why the rates on Chinese property should not be as low or lower than on European properties, but I suppose that contingency is a remote one. What we have to face is the fact that existing premiums on Chinese property in the Colony constitute so great a burden as to render most of it unremunerative at present rentals. The question arises, therefore, whether this fire insurance incubus is not out of all proportion to the risks run. Comparatively speaking the risks are small. Our Chinese properties are so scattered that no single fire is likely to inflict a greater loss on us than \$4,000, and to effect this a whole block would have to be burnt to the ground, a state of affairs which happily seldom occurs. Your directors are in favour of taking all the fire risk on your Chinese property and half that on your European properties, as the rates on the latter are very much lower, and a

much greater amount of damage could be inflicted on the Company by a single fire than would be possible in the case of your Chinese properties. We have paid during the past six years upwards of \$2,000 to the insurance companies, and received in return for fire damage \$300. During the next six years the fire premiums will probably amount to \$40,000 and I think you will agree that with ordinary luck we may be able to build up a very substantial insurance reserve fund out of premiums alone. Before putting the resolutions to the vote, I shall be pleased to answer any questions or hear anything shareholders may have to say, but I may mention that it is not the intention of the board to give effect to the resolutions, unless a majority of at least two-thirds of the shareholders present are in favour.

Capt. CLARKE—Mr. Chairman, I think the directors should have the power they ask for to make this improvement in the condition of the Company, but I believe—at least, I have heard to-day—that the fire insurance companies are reducing their rates. I have only heard it as rumour; I don't know whether it is true.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I think that applies in Kowloon only.

The CHAIRMAN—Of course, Captain Clarke, these resolutions, if passed, do not necessarily take effect. The point is that it gives the directors the power to carry out the resolutions if they consider it necessary. The fire insurance companies might consider it advisable to put up their rates again, and it would be a strong position for the Company to be able to carry these resolutions into effect.

Capt. CLARKE—I quite agree that the directors should have that power, but there is one question I should like to ask: What means have the Government over on the Kowloon side for extinguishing fires—what appliances have they got? I understand they have no fire engines at all.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—They have the marine engines, which are handy in case of a fire near the Praya. Of course, all the houses in Kowloon are near the Praya.

Capt. CLARKE—Then they have not a single fire engine in Kowloon?

The CHAIRMAN—Who; the Government?

Capt. CLARKE—Yes.

The CHAIRMAN—I believe not.

Capt. CLARKE—It is a fine state of affairs to trust to the floating fire-engines; it seems to me like trusting to rotten reeds. I have seen here in Hongkong, on the occasion of a fire in Wellington Street, the floating fire-engine take forty-five minutes before she got the order to leave the site of that fire to go to another on a steamer in the harbour. In taking the risk on your properties, I think it would be as well to consider what appliances there are over in Kowloon for extinguishing fires.

The CHAIRMAN—Of course, Captain Clarke, as I told you in my opening speech, during the last six years we paid over \$20,000 to the fire insurance companies, and we have only received \$300 for fire damage, so I think you might estimate the risk to a certain extent by that. At the same time, I think it would be advisable for us to see that there is a sufficient fire brigade in Kowloon.

Capt. CLARKE—It might be advisable to bring to the notice of the Government the inadequacy of the fire extinguishing appliances in Kowloon.

The CHAIRMAN—We will make enquiries and do what is best.

Capt. CLARKE—Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN—There being no further questions, I beg to propose the following resolutions:—(1.) That the Company may underwrite the whole or any part of the fire risks on all or any of its properties as the directors may from time to time determine. (2.) That the sum of \$200,000 now standing to the credit of permanent reserve fund be transferred to the credit of an "insurance reserve fund," and that this fund shall be credited with the same premiums on the properties underwritten by the Company as if they had been insured with other Companies, and that all losses by fire shall be met out of the same fund. Will someone kindly second that?

Capt. CLARKE—I have great pleasure in seconding the motion. It will give the directors the same powers as shipowners have in underwriting the value of their ships.

The motion was put to the meeting and agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That, gentlemen, is all the business of the meeting. It is not necessary to have a confirmatory meeting, the resolutions involving no change in the articles of association.

WATKINS, LIMITED.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the fourth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the offices of the Company, at noon, on Saturday, the 28th inst., is as follows:—

Gentlemen,—Annexed we beg to submit to you a statement of the accounts of the Company to the 31st December, 1902.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Including the balance carried forward from last year, the amount of this account shows \$15,361.06
Bad and doubtful debts written off \$1,706.85
Amounts written off for depreciation 2,601.11

4,307.96

Leaving the sum of ... \$11,053.10

From which sum your general managers propose to pay 10 per cent. dividend for the year 1902, absorbing ... \$10,000.00

Forwarded to new account ... \$1,053.10

EQUALISATION OF DIVIDEND.

The balance at credit of this fund stands at \$4,802.57.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts.

G. A. WATKINS, } General Managers,
CH'AN A FOOK, }
Hongkong, 2nd March, 1903.

VICTORIA GAOL IN 1902.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report of Mr. F. J. Badeley on Victoria Gaol is published in the *Gazette*. We make the following extracts:—

The number of prisoners committed to the Gaol under sentences from the ordinary Courts was 5,786, besides 149 soldiers and sailors sentenced by the Military and Naval Authorities. There were 53 prisoners admitted for debt, making a total of 5,989.

The corresponding numbers for the preceding year were respectively 4,858, 182, 29 and 8, making a total of 5,077.

The percentage of prisoners admitted with previous convictions recorded against them to the total number of admissions was 11.3 as compared with a percentage of 13.37 for the year 1901.

The daily average number of prisoners confined in the Gaol during the year was 576 as against 499 in 1901. The accommodation of the Gaol was given in 1900 as 570. During 1902, and especially in May, when for several days there were 749 prisoners, the Gaol was very much overcrowded. During the latter part of the year a number of prisoners were located in the corridors, cell accommodation being insufficient.

There were 6 deaths and 3 executions during the year, and 35 prisoners released on medical grounds.

There were 84 juveniles admitted to the Gaol during the year, 64 of whom were sentenced to be detained for 48 hours and to be whipped, the remainder were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

There were 1,971 punishments for breach of prison discipline, being an average of 3.42 per prisoner, as compared with 2.41 with an average per prisoner of 4.83 for the preceding year. There were eight cases in which corporal punishment was awarded during the year, seven of which were (with the birch rod) sentenced by the Assistant Superintendent alone and one with the cat-o-nine-tails, sentenced by the same officer in conjunction with a Justice of the Peace.

Notwithstanding the overcrowded state of the Gaol during the year, the average number of reports per prisoner has been the lowest on record and speaks well for the maintenance of discipline throughout the prison.

There were 313 prisoners convicted from the New Territory during the year, of whom 18 were sentenced to 2 years imprisonment and upwards.

Constant attention is given to the instruction of long-sentence prisoners (first offenders) of good conduct, who are employed at industrial labour, viz.—Boot and shoemaking, tailoring, mat-making, carpentry, tin-smithing, net-making, mattress-making, rattan work, knitting, printing, and book-binding—the knowledge of which is useful and educational, rendering many of them much better adapted to earn an honest livelihood after their discharge from prison.

The total number of forms printed at the Gaol during the year 1902 was 3,050,828 and 11,949 books were bound. The value of work done by the printing and book-binding department was \$29,039.13. Deducting the cost of paper, leather, etc., used during the year, from the net earnings, the total profits on all industrial labour amounted to \$29,439.91 for the year 1902.

All minor repairs to the Gaol have been carried out by prison labour.

The conduct of the European officers has as a rule been excellent, and their duties have been satisfactorily performed. The conduct of the Indian staff has been on the whole good.

There have been no escapes or attempts to escape.

The new quarters for married and single officers were completed and occupied in March. The officers' old quarters within the prison have been converted, by prison labour, into a hospital for prisoners.

The new hospital is a separate building, capable of accommodating 30 prisoners.

There have been no suicides or attempts to commit suicide during the year.

SEAMEN'S CHURCH AND MISSION.

The report for 1902 has been issued to the friends and subscribers to the Mission. The committee in the course of the report state that the mission steam-launch *Dayspring* is an increasingly important agent in the work of the chaplains. The committee feel therefore that in the forefront of their report, they must place upon record their grateful thanks to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. for their kindness in keeping the launch in a seaworthy condition, and also to those who by generous donations of coal and water have made it possible to keep the launch running. Coal was given by:—

Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co., 2 tons per month
Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., 1 " "
Messrs Gibb, Livingston & Co., 1 " "
Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., 1 " "
Canadian Pacific Railway Co., 1 ton per steamer

But in this year of drought and scarcity of water they feel that special note should be made of the fact that through the great kindness of the Hongkong Steam Water-boat Co. the needs of the Mission launch were always fully met and supplied.

More than two thousand nine hundred visits have been paid to ships during the year. In connection with this, the committee mention that there has been a considerable increase in the number of men who have used the *Dayspring* to get from and to their ships on Sundays. There has been also an increase in the number of men who have made use of the launch on weekdays to attend the concerts and temperance meetings. During the year more than five thousand seamen have been carried to and from the shore. In the number of seamen who have availed themselves of the opportunity to join in the Holy Communion there has been also a considerable increase, more than sixty per cent. upon last year.

The attendance at the temperance meetings was somewhat less than in the last year, and the number of temperance seamen enrolled was smaller. Concerts however and other entertainments have brought together a larger number of men than ever before, and many very pleasant evenings have been spent at the Institute.

The Committee greatly regret that about the middle of the year it was found necessary to close the "Star" Coffee House. The premises were very unsuitable, the locality away from the main stream of traffic and the rent high. When

the lease expired a demand for a considerable increase in the rent was made by the landlord, and as this would have made a very heavy drain up on the very slender funds available for general purposes, to which the "Star" Coffee House is already considerably in debt, it was thought better to close the House and to give time and energy rather to the endeavour to provide a Seamen's Institute (on a permanent basis) which should be the property of the Mission. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese is very kindly seeking to interest friends in England in this matter and has already received support. Mention should here be made of the munificent donation of \$500.00 by Mr. Price who has recently departed from the Colony. By means of this an old debt for alteration to the "Star" premises at the corner of Pottinger Street was wiped out, otherwise a much heavier deficit would have been entailed.

The committee wish to place upon record their thanks to the subscribers who by their generous contributions have enabled them to meet the financial needs of the Mission and to close the year with a balance in hand.

The Committee appeal for literature for the Institute and for distribution among the shipping. Magazines are especially useful.

The accounts show a balance in hand of \$313.57.

AMOY NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 19th March, 1903.

A NEW INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT.

At last the island of Kulangsu has become an International Settlement. A meeting of rate-payers was called for the 17th instant, for the election of a Municipal Council. Owing to some difficulties in regard to the qualifications for voting, the Consular Body decided to appoint the first Council, and the following were appointed:—Messrs. Akaba, Marshall, Orr, Hempel, Wallace, Dunne.

Copies of Land Regulations and Bye-Laws have been circulated, and we understand they come in force on May 1st.

There is some hard work before the Council but we think the gentlemen appointed will be equal to the occasion. We should be better off from a sanitary point of view, but the new taxes and licenses will be rather heavy. These together with the Customs duties make the future business outlook anything but bright.

DROUGHT RELIEVED.

We have had a lot of rain during the last few days. It was wanted badly, as a good many wells were dried up.

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. OFFICERS OF THE FLEET.

A good game was anticipated between the above, but there was only a moderate attendance at the Happy Valley on the 21st inst. when the teams lined up as follows:—

Officers of the Fleet:—Dorman, goal; Hall and Bardell, backs; Demant, Crossman, and Stokes, halves; Preston, Chambers, Whitworth, Hallet, and Cook, forwards.

H.K.F.C.:—C. C. Hickling, goal; T. E. Pierce and J. W. C. Bonnar, backs; H. A. Brent, C. T. Kew, and W. T. Caulfield, halves; W. B. Lemarchand, N. H. Rutherford, C. B. S. Cooper, E. Henderson, and F. J. Davies, forwards.

The officers, losing the spin of the coin, kicked off. Cooper got possession and passed to Henderson; the ball, however, went out. From the throw the Navy rushed down; Davies intercepted a pass and had a good run, but was dispossessed before he could get in a shot. Neither side was making much progress and play was very even, each goal being visited in turn. The first dangerous raid was by the Navy, who had hard lines in not opening the score. They managed to secure a throw well down in the corner, and after several attempts had been made to net the ball, Cooper punted hard down. Whitworth let Preston away, but Bonnar cutely put him offside. A dribble by Whitworth was blocked by Kew, who gave to Lemarchand. The Club outside right left Stokes a long way behind, but the attack came to nothing. Preston having beaten Bonnar, was given offside—a doubtful decision. Davies cleverly left Hall standing, and secured a corner, which Dorman cleared. The Club

attacking strongly gained two corners, but could not penetrate the defence. The game was very tame, and only lived up for a brief space by a passing run by Lemarchand and Rutherford. A certain score was expected by Pierce, who, after his partner had been beaten, rushed across just in time to get in his kick before Hallet. A foul close in on the naval goal looked dangerous; the defence, however, was sound. Immediately after, the whistle signalled half-time, neither side having scored.

From the kick off the Navy gained possession and Cook was almost the medium of the score being opened. After this narrow escape the Club came away with a rush. Lemarchand received the ball in an offside position, but was not called upon by the referee. Rushing on, the outside right centred, and Henderson from under the bar had no difficulty in netting. This was distinctly hard lines, but it made the Navy put more sting into their play, and it looked odds on their equalising. Rutherford was feeding his partner splendidly, but the naval backs were cute and lay well up, so that when Lemarchand rushed away he was invariably offside, though the referee was very indulgent to such backslidings. Dorman dallying instead of clearing immediately, Cooper nearly took the ball from him. At last the Navy scored, but offside robbed them of the point. Cook sprinted up the wing, and passed to the centre, who was offside. A goal would have been a well-deserved reward for the pressure the Club's goal was now subjected to; the Navy, however, could do anything but score. Bonnar wildly rushing all over the field, the sailors were time and again pulled up for offside when their forwards came away on a run. The long-looked-for came at last. Kew, who had been playing a first-class game, unluckily handled—so we were afterwards informed—within the penalty area, and the referee, much to the astonishment of the players and the mystification of the spectators, awarded a penalty. Whitworth took the kick, and placed in the net. Some of the players, however, having crossed the line previous to the ball being played, the referee ordered the kick to be retaken. This time Hickling got his hands on the ball and stopped its progress, but failing to clear effectively the ball was secured by a Naval forward, and into the net it went. The complexion of the game had not altered when the whistle sounded. The score then stood—

Officers of the Fleet, 1 goal; H.K.F.C., goal.

The sides were evenly matched, but the play generally was of a poor order.

The Shield final is being pleasantly anticipated by all who witnessed the *Glory-Ocean* fight, and a battle royal should be witnessed to-day.

H.K.F.C. v. THE NAVY.

This match, the fourth between the above teams this season and not the fifth as stated in a contemporary, was played on the 20th inst. and resulted in a draw of one try (3 points) all, after a keen struggle. The following was the Club team:—

P. H. Campbell, back; W. R. Robertson, R. D. Harvey, T. E. Pearce, and O. J. Barnes, three-quarters; E. M. Knox and J. P. Jordan, half-backs; W. W. Clark (capt.), E. R. Hallifax, P. W. Goldring, E. D. O. Wolfe, V. Cooper, A. Boyd; P. S. Jameson and H. L. Bingley, forwards.

Lewin scored a clever try for the Navy, although pluckily tackled by Knox. The Club were unfortunate two or three times in being unable to score, especially after an excellent run by Barnes. Jordan dribbled over the line, but Corsar kicked the ball dead. Half-time arrived with the score a try in favour of the Navy.

On resuming the Club's three-quarters got going, but nothing resulted. Hallifax was always prominent out of touch and played a fine game. Following give-and-take play Clark intercepted a pass, and after a magnificent run half the length of the field grounded the ball between the posts. This fine effort was deservedly applauded. He took the kick himself, but, to the surprise of all, failed to convert. Nothing more was scored, and the game ended in a draw.

For the Club, Clark and Hallifax played a

splendid game, ably supported by Cooper, Goldring, and Wolfe. Pearce and Harvey saved well, the Club's outsiders, however, did not play with enough dash. The Naval halves were inclined to be off-side, but their three-quarters marked their men well. Corar at back played his usual sound game.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. HOCKEY CLUB.

The following are the scores in the above match, played on the 21st inst:—

| H.K.C.C. | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| B. B. Garde, R.N. (capt.), c Parker, b Hancock | 54 |
| W. Dixon, run out | 8 |
| Capt. Fawcett, R.A., c Maitland, b Gray | 42 |
| S. D. Blair, R.N., b Carter | 54 |
| A. H. Bissett, R.N., c Hooper, b Gray | 0 |
| P. T. Lambie, b Hancock | 12 |
| R. E. O. Bird, c Cooke, b Hancock | 28 |
| Lt. T. Sheldford, R.N., l.b.w., b Hancock | 4 |
| Lt. Mahon, R.N., c and b Carter | 4 |
| Lt. Toulmin, R.M.L.I., b Carter | 1 |
| G. Grimble, not out | 2 |
| Extras | 7 |
| Total | 216 |

| HOCKEY CLUB. | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|
| G. A. Cooke, R.N., c Blair, b Bird | 7 |
| T. C. Gray, b Bird | 8 |
| R. H. Carter, R.N., not out | 42 |
| Dr. Meaden, R.N. (capt.), c and b Toulmin | 3 |
| F. Maitland, b Blair | 20 |
| H. Hancock, b Fawcett | 34 |
| J. Hooper, b Bird | 7 |
| A. Ransome, R.N., b Bird | 2 |
| C. A. Parker, R.N., not out | 0 |
| C. P. (later, Junr.), } | |
| Dr. L. E. Dartnell, R.N., } to bat | |
| Extras | 5 |
| Total (for 7 wickets) | 128 |

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

| H.K.C.C. | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| | O. | M. | R. | W. |
| Carter | 18 | 1 | 74 | 3 |
| Meaden | 9 | — | 32 | — |
| Hancock | 17 | 3 | 49 | 4 |
| Gray | 9 | 1 | 55 | 2 |

| HOCKEY CLUB. | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| | O. | M. | R. | W. |
| Toulmin | 7 | 1 | 11 | 1 |
| Bird | 14 | 4 | 31 | 4 |
| W. Dixon | 10 | 1 | 37 | — |
| Blair | 3 | — | 11 | 1 |
| Fawcett | 5 | — | 21 | 1 |
| Lambie | 4 | — | 13 | — |
| Bissett | 2 | 1 | 1 | — |

A.O.D. C.C. v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

This match was played at the Happy Valley on the 21st inst., between the above Clubs, and resulted in a victory for Craigengower by 4 wickets and 27 runs.

The following are the scores:—

| A.O.D. C.C. | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Lillywhite (capt.), b Herton | 11 |
| Ansombe, b Pestonji | 42 |
| Robinson, b Herton | 1 |
| Rutter, c Bassa, b Herton | 2 |
| Bradford, b Herton | 19 |
| MacGibbon, c Stuart, b Herton | 4 |
| Maldrum, b Pestonji | 3 |
| Bromley, b Herton | 2 |
| Langley, run out | 0 |
| Burgess, b Pestonji | 0 |
| Lashbrook, not out | 2 |
| Extras | 3 |
| Total | 89 |

| CRAIGENGOWER C.C. | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| M. H. Hartman, b Ansombe | 2 |
| L. E. Lammert, b Bradford | 24 |
| E. R. Herton, c and b Ansombe | 0 |
| B. Pestonji, b Bradford | 3 |
| B. Bassa, b Bradford | 31 |
| L. A. Rose, b Bradford | 4 |
| M. E. Asger (capt.), not out | 27 |
| J. L. Stuart, not out | 14 |
| J. D. Kinnaird, } | |
| E. Ford, } did not bat | |
| H. Jacobbi, } | |
| Extras | 11 |
| Total (for 6 wickets) | 116 |

A Peking telegram to the *N.-C. Daily News* states that at the meeting of the Diplomatic Body held on Tuesday, the 17th inst., the French Minister, acting on his instructions from the French Government, moved that the Ministers should accede to the proposal of the Chinese Government to collect the Customs duties on a gold basis. This was seconded by the Russian Minister, but the majority of the Ministers decided against granting China's request.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB ROWING RACES.

On the 21st inst the Victoria Recreation Club had a couple of rowing races at Kowloon, this being a new departure having for its object the improvement of the racing at the next Regatta. It was wholly successful, although the number of spectators might have been larger. Both races were splendidly contested. The first was a one-mile scratch four-oared race and the other a half-mile double-scutt race. Appended are the results:—

SCRATCH FOUR-OARED RACE—1 MILE.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Station No. 3. <i>Rose</i> — | |
| Bow | F. K. Tata |
| 2 | G. H. Ruby |
| 3 | I. C. Musso |
| Stroke | A. E. Alves |
| Cox | C. M. S. Alves |
| 2 Station No. 4. <i>Shamrock</i> — | |
| Bow | H. A. Seth |
| 2 | A. E. Asgar |
| 3 | F. M. Rosa Pereira |
| Stroke | C. S. Hance |
| Cox | H. M. Bain |
| 3 Station No. 1. <i>Leek</i> — | |
| Bow | F. D. Bain |
| 2 | J. Jordan |
| 3 | H. A. Lammert |
| Stroke | J. Millar |
| Cox | F. W. White |

There were five entrants. The race was fixed for 4.15 p.m. and the starter's gun went off promptly to the minute. Coming down the course *Shamrock* gained a slight advantage and opposite Yaumati Police Station was leading by half-a-length. Then *Rose* came up with a spurt and going at a great pace took up the lead and eventually won by about half-a-length. It was a pity that no official time was taken, for it must have been very fast.

DOUBLE-SCULL RACE—1 MILE.

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Station No. 2. <i>Powerful</i> — | |
| Bow | S. Musso |
| Stroke | F. M. R. Pereira |
| Cox | C. M. Alves |
| 2 Station No. 3. <i>Terrible</i> — | |
| Bow | A. J. Mackie |
| Stroke | S. A. Moore |
| Cox | F. W. White |

Three entrants. Again Mr. Meek got the boats away to a good start and an exciting race ensued, *Powerful* winning by less than a length, and *Terrible* getting into second place with a few feet to spare.

At the conclusion of the racing the prizes were presented by Mr. Frank White, the popular Hon. Secretary of the Club. He congratulated the members on the success of the races and said he hoped to be able to get up another meeting of the same kind next month. The prizes, which consisted of silver salt cellars for the first race and silver match-boxes for the second, had been presented by a well-known local gentleman—a good sport himself. (Applause.) The races had been keenly contested and he only hoped the losers would not be discouraged but have better luck next time. At the close of the presentation ceremony, three cheers were given for Mr. White and for the donor of the prizes. It remains to be added that Mr. T. Meek acted as starter, Mr. W. Armstrong as umpire, and Messrs. R. H. B. Mitchell and A. A. Alves as judges. A police launch kept the course clear.

A New York despatch to the *Cable News* states that a company has been incorporated for the purpose of taking over the franchises for an electric light and street railway plant in Manila. The capital stock was fixed at one million dollars fully paid and non-assessable.

The Philippines Civil Commission has appointed engineers to investigate conditions relative to the building of railroads in the various parts of the Archipelago. They will visit all parts of the islands and the possible routes for roads, make preliminary surveys and report to the Civil Governor. The results of their investigations will be published in the United States with a view to interesting capital in the construction of railroads in the Philippine Islands. These engineers are to be under the general supervisory control of the consulting engineer to the Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The records of the Board of Health at Manila show that for the month of February in the city of Manila there were 18 cases of bubonic plague, of which 19 cases proved fatal. The disease attacked Filipinos for the most part, but a large number of Chinese were stricken also.

Among a number of awards by the Royal Humane Society for distinguished action in saving or attempting to save life, a silver medal has been presented to J. Shearman, fourth officer of the P. & O. *Malacca*, for a gallant action, off Wocung, China, on December 15th, shortly after midnight.

The *Tonkin* was two days late at Singapore. When she passed Pulo Weh, Sumatra, she signalled that her starboard shaft was broken. Enquiries at the Singapore office of the Messageries Maritimes Company elicited the information that the *Tonkin* was able to steam from ten to eleven knots on one engine.

The United States Consul-General at Bangkok in a recent report to his Government forwards and endorses the views of a business man well acquainted with trade throughout the Far East to the effect that there is a good opportunity for the establishment of a properly conducted American firm in Bangkok.

Prince Tsai Chen, Chief Chinese Commissioner to Osaka Exhibition, it is stated in a private letter from Peking, will take with him presents for the Mikado amounting to the value of Tls. 5,000. It is not stated whether the presents are intended to be from Prince Tsai Chen himself or conjointly from the Empress Dowager and Emperor.

The Ketteler Monument in Peking, which was built by the Chinese Government in commemoration of the late German Minister murdered in 1900 by Tung Fu-chiang's soldiers, cost Tls. 190,000 all told; but it remains to be seen, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, what sort of a bill the officials superintending the work intend to charge the Imperial exchequer. If precedent be followed it is expected that the Government will be charged at least a million taels.

It was reported on the 24th inst. that a shocking fatality had occurred at Quarry Bay shipyard on the previous evening. A Chinese widow woman, Cheung Tsung Tai (44), who had been employed for only two weeks in the yard, was passing over one of the level crossings on the locomotive track when she was struck by an engine and knocked down. The whole train, consisting of seven trucks, passed over the unfortunate woman's body, which was cut to pieces. It seems that the deceased was stone deaf and hence did not hear the engine approaching. She leaves one child.

Mr. Schwab, the President of the United States Steel Trust, and at present travelling in Europe, has been negotiating with the Russian railway authorities for permission to run his own special train on the railway system of the Russian Empire as far as Port Arthur. Mr. Schwab has received permission to run his own special train along the Siberian Railway as far as Lake Baikal. As through communication by rail comes to an end a few miles eastwards of Irkutsk and on the shores of the lake, the Russian authorities have promised to place a special train at Mr. Schwab's disposal throughout the entire length of the Manchurian Railway.

The Philippines Commission has made provision for the appointment of a special Commission to represent the government in Europe and other countries to purchase books and manuscripts relating to the history of the Philippine Islands. The purpose of the act is to lay the foundation of a historical library wherein there shall be gathered copies of all extant records bearing in any way upon the history of the country, its discovery by Europeans and its development since, as well as the legends and remains of its pre-discovery period. The agent to be appointed will go to Spain, France, Italy, and other European countries where documents may exist, as well as to Spanish American countries. The salary attached to the new position is \$3,000 per year. The agent will also be allowed his actual travelling expenses, and his subsistence.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 27th March.—Exports.—Re-reels.—Buyers have been enquiring for contracts in new season's produce and conflicting rumours are current as to the prices offered. A sale of 2 bales each Nos. 1 and 2, 2nd and 3rd crops, is reported as made at \$865 average. In general, the ideas of buyers appear to range about \$830 for Nos. 1, 2 & 3, while dealers offer to a limited extent at \$860. Filatures.—Considerable activity has ruled in all sizes for Europe up to a couple of days ago, when transactions were checked by advancing Exchange. Holders have met demand and in many cases have obtained a slight advance. Many ree'ers have now contracted up to the close of their production for the current season, and we estimate that about 4,000 bales unsold now remain to come forward. In Best 3e Order the season is virtually finished and buyers are endeavouring to obtain contracts in new silk. The best price offered is \$860 (Frs. 32.00) average for 11/13, 13/15, and it is currently reported that Soey Wo Cheung has taken 100 bales at this price. No other dealers will entertain forward contracts, expressing too great uncertainty as to the future. Short-reels.—American buyers show very little interest in the remaining stock and the few sales made show an irregular market. These include: Han King Lon 14/16 (50 bales) at \$1,030, Kwong Wo Tai 14/16 (60 bales) at \$1,020, Yu King 14/16 at \$1,010, Koun King 14/16 (50 bales) at \$980. In new silk, 25 bales each of Kwong Wo Hing and King Shing's Gold Lion have been contracted for at \$1,000 and \$990 respectively. Waste.—The easier tone reported in our last has become accentuated. Prices of Steam show a drop of \$10 per picul, and Ext. Sel. opened could be done to-day at \$140, or possibly a shade under. In all other classes the season is practically finished, and our quotations are of little value.

CAMPHOR.

Hongkong, 27th March.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 27th March.—The prices are advancing, holders being firm.
Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.45 to \$8.50 pcl.
Do. " 2, White..... 7.55 to 7.60 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 6.20 to 6.25 "
Do. " 2, Brown ... 6.05 to 6.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.30 to 8.35 "
Do. No. 1, White..... 7.40 to 7.45 "
Do. " 1, Brown ... 5.90 to 5.95 "
Do. " 2, Brown ... 5.75 to 5.80 "
Fochow Sugar Candy12.25 to 12.30 "
Shekloong "10.75 to 10.80 "

RICE.

Hongkong, 27th March.—Large arrivals having been reported, the downward tendency continues.
Saigon, Ordinary\$3.70 to 3.75
" Round, Good quality 5.45 to 5.50
" Long 5.60 to 5.65
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 4.20 to 4.25
" Garden, " No. 1 4.45 to 4.50
" White, 5.70 to 5.75
" Fine Cargo 5.90 to 5.95

COTTON.

Hongkong, 27th March.—Nothing doing. Market very quiet. Stock, about 4,500 bales.
Bombay23.00 to 24.00 picul
Bengal (New), Rangoo } 24.00 to 26.00 "
and Dacca..... } "
Shanghai and Japanese, 28.00 to 29.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo, 28.00 to 29.00 "

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 29th March.—Demand has somewhat fallen off during the past fortnight, and settlements, as reported below, are comparatively small. Importers have been pressing sales at a reduction of from 50 cents to \$1 per bale on all desirable spinings, but dealers are acting very cautiously and buying only for immediate wants, as with the contract goods now arriving and previous stock in hand they are now meeting their heavy engagements with country-buyers, and can afford to wait further developments. No. 10s. still continue to attract most attention, and form the bulk of the settlements. Prices, however, show little or no change, but there is a hardening tendency for best qualities while common kinds are weak. Sixteens are in demand but best makes are more saleable and proportionately higher in price than medium and common threads. Market closes steady with light stocks.

Local Manufacture.—No business reported, but prices are well maintained.

Japanese Yarn.—Sales of about 400 bales No. 20s., at from \$131 to \$142 have transpired. (Close firm.)

Raw Cotton.—The market continues somewhat featureless in Indian descriptions. Importers are fairly keen sellers, but the country is irresponsible, and dealers apathetic. The local mill, however, has put in an appearance and is reported to have purchased 50 bales Superfine Bengal at from \$24 to \$25, leaving a stock of about 5,000 bales on the market. Nothing doing in China kinds, stocks 500 bales. We quote to-day Indian \$21 to \$25, and Chinese \$25 to 28.

Exchange on India has fluctuated slightly and shows a small advance on last mail; closing to-day at Rs. 119½ for T/T and Rs. 119½ for Post on Shanghai \$73½ and on Yokohama 78½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 14th instant, viz.:

Indian.—Total sales 6,764 bales, comprising 25 bales No. 6s., 1,536 bales No. 10s., 990 bales No. 12., 55 bales No. 16s., and 3,663 bales No. 20., prices showing an advance of half to 1½ tael and market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock about 39,000 bales.

Japanese.—Business continues on a small scale, sales aggregating about 1,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 94 to 98 for 16s. and Tls. 97½ to 100 for No. 20s., prices showing an appreciation of one to two Taels and market closing strong.

Local.—Total sales about 5,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 91½ to 94 for 14s., and Tls. 90 to 95½ for No. 20., market closing firm with a hardening tendency.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong 27th March.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

| | per bale |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ... 94.00 to \$134.00 | |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24, ... 114.00 to 120.00 | |
| " 22 to 24, ... 120.00 to 128.00 | |
| " 28 to 32, ... 136.00 to 142.00 | |
| " 38 to 42, ... 155.00 to 170.00 | |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

| | per piece. |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.30 to 2.40 | |
| 7 lbs. 2.50 to 2.80 | |
| 8.4 lbs. 3.30 to 4.10 | |
| 9 to 10 lbs. ... 4.00 to 5.00 | |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.80 to 3.00 | |
| 58 to 60 " 3.45 to 3.75 | |
| 64 to 66 " 4.00 to 5.50 | |
| Fine 5.75 to 8.20 | |
| Book-folds 4.75 to 7.50 | |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.80 to 1.75 | |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. 2.00 to 2.30 | |
| 7lbs. (32 ") " 2.40 to 2.95 | |
| 6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 2.50 to 2.75 | |
| 7lbs. (32 ") " 3.00 to 3.50 | |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.30 to 4.00 | |
| Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. } 4.75 to 7.30 | |

FANCY COTTONS.—

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs } | 1.50 to 6.50 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|

Brocades—Dyed

| | |
|--|------|
| | to — |
|--|------|

DAMASKS —

| | per yard |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Chintzes—Assorted — to — | |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in } 0.29 to 0.60 | |
| Velveteens—18 in. 0.26 to 0.29 | |

| | per dozen |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.39 to 5.00 | |

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 27th March.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

| | |
|------------------------------------------|------|
| Telegraphic Transfer | 1/7½ |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 1/7½ |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight | 1/7½ |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight | 1/7½ |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 1/7½ |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 1/7½ |

ON PARIS.—

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Bank Bills, on demand | 501 |
| Credits 4 months' sight | 01 |

ON GERMANY.—

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| On demand | 163½ |
|-----------------|------|

ON NEW YORK.—

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Bank Bills, on demand | 59 |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | 39½ |

ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand 119½

ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand 119½

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight

Private, 30 days' sight 74½

ON YOKOHAMA.—ON demand

..... 78½

ON MANILA.—ON demand

..... 1 p.c. pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—ON demand

..... nominal

ON BATAVIA.—ON demand

..... 16½

ON HAIPHONG.—ON demand

..... 2½ p.c. pm.

ON SAIGON.—ON demand

..... 2 p.c. pm.

ON BANGKOK.—ON demand

..... 69½

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

..... \$12.40

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

..... 65

BAR SILVER, per oz.

..... 22½

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, March 27th, 1903.—Our market has been active throughout the week under review, and a further important investment business at gradually improving rates has to be recorded.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been placed at \$ 90 and \$69½, and close with further buyers at the higher rate. London is unchanged at \$62 10s. 6d. Nationals have improved to \$25 buyers.

MARINE INSURANCE.—China Traders have eased off slightly and are obtainable at \$60. Unions sold at \$535 and further shares could probably be placed at the rate. North Chinas have sold at Tls. 200 and continue in request. Yangtz's have improved to \$140 buyers. C-nions can still be placed at \$ 62½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's have sold at \$3 7½ and \$209, and at the close a few shares are probably obtainable at the former quotation. Chinas sold at \$ 2 and continue in request.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been in active demand and important sales have been effected at \$38 at which more shares can be placed. Indo-Chinas have been booked at \$100, \$99½ and \$99 and more shares can be placed at the last named figure. China and Manilas continue in request at \$27. Douglases have sold at \$43 and close steady. Star Ferries (old) have improved to \$27 buyers; the new issue is unchanged at \$14.60. Shell Transports continue on offer at £1 7s. 6d., and a slightly lower rate would probably be accepted.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been booked at \$107 to \$109½ and at the close some further shares are obtainable at \$109. Luzons are with out change at \$12½ sellers.

MINING.—Punjams are wanted at the advanced rate of \$3½. Kansars are weak with sellers at \$8.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been in active demand with sales at \$207 to \$213 cash, and equivalent forward rates, and our market closes with a further enquiry for cash shares at the higher rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been booked at \$43 and more shares are wanted. New Amoy Docks are unchanged at \$38½ sellers. Farnhams have fluctuated between \$190 and \$190 with sales at intermediate rates, and close steady at \$187½.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue on offer at \$176 with sales reported at \$175. Kowloon Lands have been in strong request, and have advanced to \$40 at which holders still refuse to sell. West Points have also improved to \$55 buyers. Hongkong Hotels continue in demand and close with buyers at \$143. Humphreys Estates are unchanged with probable sellers at \$12.15 after sales at \$12.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have advanced in the north to Tls. 38½ with sales. Hongkong's are unaltered at \$17 sellers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Manila Investments have sold at \$15 and can still be placed at this figure. Green Island Cements have been booked at \$23½ and \$23½, and are now obtainable at \$22½ ex the dividend of \$1.20 per share for 1902 paid on the 22nd inst. A. M. Watsons are wanted at \$14½. Ropes can be placed at the improved rate of \$112½. Fenwicks have advanced to \$17 buyers. Campbell, Moores have sold at \$42½. Bells Asbestos are wanted at \$2½, and Powells at \$10. China Providents after sales at \$9.85 are procurable at \$9½.

MEXOS.—Campbell, Moore & Co., Ltd., ordinary annual meeting on the 31st instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY. | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Banks— | | |
| Hongkong & Shanghai | \$125 | \$501, buyers (L'don, £62. 10, |
| Natl. Bank of China | | |
| A. Shares | 28 | \$25, buyers |
| B. Shares | 28 | \$25, buyers |
| Foun. Shares.... | 21 | \$10, sellers |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.... | 21 | \$21, buyers |
| Campbell, Moore & Co. | \$10 | \$42, sales |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd. | \$12 | \$7. |
| China Light & Power Co., Ltd. | \$20 | \$10. |
| China Prov. L. & M. | \$10 | \$9.85, sellers |
| China Sugar | \$100 | \$109. |
| Cigar Companies— | | |
| Alhambra Limited. | \$500 | \$350, sellers |
| Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.) | \$50 | \$20, sales & sellers |
| Cotton Mills— | | |
| Ewo | Tls. 100 | Tls. 88, sales |
| International | Tls. 75 | Tls. 38. |
| Leon Kung Mow | Tls. 100 | Tls. 40. |
| Soychee | Tls. 500 | Tls. 160. |
| Hongkong | \$100 | \$17, sellers |
| Dairy Farm | \$6 | \$11, buyers |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo. | \$25 | \$47, buyers |
| Green Island Cement. | \$10 | \$2, ex div., sellers |
| H. & C. Bakery | \$50 | \$40, sellers |
| Hongkong & C. Gas... | \$10 | \$140, buyers |
| Hongkong Electric .. | \$5 | \$7, buyers |
| H. H. L. Tramways... | \$100 | \$327. |
| Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd. | \$10 | \$11, buyers |
| Hongkong Hotel | \$50 | \$142, buyers |
| Hongkong Ice | \$25 | \$228. |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.... | \$50 | \$93, buyers |
| Hongkong Rope | \$50 | \$112, buyers |
| H. & W. Dock | \$50 | \$212, buyers |
| Insurance— | | |
| Canton | \$50 | \$162, buyers |
| China Fire | \$20 | \$82, buyers |
| China Traders' | \$25 | \$60, sellers |
| Hongkong Fire | \$50 | \$3. 7, sellers |
| North China | \$25 | Tls. 200, sa'ed & buy. |
| Straits | \$20 | \$1, nominal |
| Union | \$100 | \$535, sales |
| Yangtze | \$60 | \$140, buyers |
| Land and Building— | | |
| Hongkong Land Inv. | \$100 | \$176, sellers |
| Humphreys Estate. | \$10 | \$12.15. |
| Kowloon Land & B. | \$30 | \$40, buyers |
| West Point Building | \$50 | \$5, buyers |
| Luxon Sugar | \$100 | \$12, sellers |
| Manila Invest. Co., Ltd. | \$50 | \$16, buyers |
| Mining— | | |
| Charbonnages | Fcs. 250 | \$600, sellers |
| Jelebu | \$5 | \$1, buyers |
| Punjom | \$10 | \$3, buyers |
| Do. Preference.... | \$1 | 60 cents, sellers |
| Raubs | 18 | \$8. |
| New Amoy Dock | \$6 | \$38. |
| Oriente Hotel, Manila | \$50 | \$27. |
| Powell, Ltd. | \$10 | \$10, buyers |
| Robinson Co. Piano, Ltd. | \$50 | \$50, nominal |
| Steamship Coys.— | | |
| China and Manila... | \$50 | \$27, buyers |
| Douglas Steamship | \$50 | \$43, sales & buyers |
| H. Canton and M.... | \$15 | \$38, sales |
| Indo-China S. N. | \$10 | \$100, sellers |
| Shell Transport and Trading Co. | \$1 | \$17.86d., sellers |
| Star Ferry | \$10 | \$27, buyers |
| Tebrau Planting Co.... | \$5 | \$14.60, buyers |
| United Asbestos | \$4 | \$8, sellers |
| Do | \$10 | \$155. |
| Universal Trading Co., Ltd. | \$5 | \$22, buyers |
| Watkins Ltd. | \$10 | \$1, buyers |
| Watson & Co., A. S.... | \$10 | \$14, buyers |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 19th March (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). There has been a very considerable business in shares generally during the past week, and particularly in Maatschappij, &c. in Langkat shares, in Indo-Chinas and also in S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. Langkats have again experienced a steady rise from Tls. 350 for cash to Tls. 375. Indo-Chinas in keen demand both for cash and time. MARINE INSURANCE.—Yangtzes could probably be placed at \$187. SHIPPING.—Shanghai Tug Boat Co., and Cargo Boat Co.—A considerable business has been done in these shares at an advance on past rates. The Tug Boats have risen to Tls. 335, and Cargo Boats Tls. 167, 168 and 175 for cash. The market

closes firm for both stocks at these rates. DOCKS AND WHARVES.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd. The market opened on the 12th with sales for cash at Tls. 187, and 187, and 190 for March settlement. On the 18th settlement shares were placed at Tls. 190 with sales for June at Tls. 195, 197, and 200, and 200 for July. On the 14th settlement shares were placed at Tls. 192, and 195, and for April at 195. On the 16th cash shares changed hands at 195, 197, 200, and 200 for settlement, 200 and 202, April and 202, July. On the 17th the cash rate fell to Tls. 192, with sales for April at 195, later a further fall took place in the cash rate to 187, and 187, for the settlement. On the 18th the market improved with sales at Tls. 190 for cash and 192, for settlement, 192, April, 195 May and 197, June. The Market closes strong with buyers at Tls. 190. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Business is reported on the 18th at Tls. 317. The market closes weak at this rate. INDUSTRIAL.—Two Cottons have been placed at Tls. 38 and Low Kung Mows at Tls. 40; there are buyers at these rates. In other cotton stocks there is no business to report. Shanghai Gas shares have been dealt in at Tls. 112. Shanghai Ice Cold-Storage and Refrigeration Co., Ltd. Ices at Tls. 18 and 20. Pulp have changed hands at Tls. 117 and 120, and there are sellers at the latter rate. Maatschappij, &c. in Langkat. A very large business has been done in these shares at continued advancing rates. On the 12th cash shares fetched 380 Tls. 352, 355, 357, 362, 365 with sales for the settlement at 357, and 362, and for June at 370, 375, and 380. On the 18th cash shares found buyers at 357, 360, and for the settlement at 365, 357, April 365/367, for June 365 and 370. On the 14th business was done in cash shares at 342, and 337, ex dividend of Tls. 7, paid that day. On the 16th cash shares were done at 345 and 350, and 350 for April. On the 17th for cash at 352, 355, 360, 365, 370 and 372, and for the settlement at 36, 372, and 375. For April at 382, for May 380/387, for June 385/390 and 392. On the 18th settlement shares were placed at 375, and 372, for cash with sales at 380 and 38, for April and 390 for June. The market is quieter with sales this morning at 370, and a disposition of the part of small holders to realise their very large profits. Sumatras have been fairly dealt in during the week at Tls. 65 for cash and 67, June. On the 17th cash shares were obtained at 60 and 61. The Market closes quiet. STORES AND HOTELS.—Centrals have been dealt in at \$7 and 26. Hall and Holtz at \$36, and Weeks at \$24. MISCELLANEOUS.—Horse Bazaars have changed hands at Tls. 165, and Telephones at Tls. 63. IN LOANS no business is reported.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 27th March.—A fair amount of business has been transacted during the period under review. From Saigon to this, 17, cents per picul offering for medium sized carriers; to one port Philippines, 34 cents per picul last and offering. Iloilo to one port Japan, 33 cents per picul. Wuhu to Canton, 34 candareens per picul and more steamers wanted. Newchwang to Canton, no enquiry; to Amoy, 32 cents per picul. Coal freights are firm. Moji to this, \$2.50 last and \$2.60 per ton offering; to Singapore, \$2.50 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Wuhu and/or Chinkiang to Canton, 32 candareens per picul.

Frigga—Norwegian steamer, 646 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 33 candareens per picul.

Else—German steamer, 903 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 34 candareens per picul.

Argo—Norwegian steamer, 879 tons, Wuhu and/or Chinkiang to Canton, 34 candareens per picul.

Loyal—German steamer, 1,184 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 34 candareens per picul.

Andree Rickmers—German steamer, 1,020 tons, Rangoon to Cebu, 52, cents per picul.

Airlie—British steamer, 1,492 tons, Iloilo to Kobe and/or Yokohama, 33 cents one port 33 cents two ports

Lennos—British steamer, 2,361 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.30 per ton.

Ivydene—British steamer, 2,280 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2.40 per ton.

Glenfarg—British steamer, 2,350 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, 32 cents per picul.

Ivydene—British steamer, 2,280 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Moldavia—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Sierstad—Norwegian steamer, 617 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Taichong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.

Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.

Eig—Norwegian steamer, 706 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.

Progress—German steamer, 799 tons, monthly, 4 months, at \$5,100 per month.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, monthly, 4 months, at \$6,300 per month.

Loyal—German steamer, 1,237 tons, monthly, 4 months, at \$6,500 per month.

Lena—Norwegian steamer, 1,000 tons, monthly, 12 months, at \$6,000 per month.

Dagmar—Norwegian steamer, 383 tons, two trips, hence to Touron or Quinhon and back, \$110 per day.

VESSELS ON THE BEETH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Candia (str.), Glaucus (str.), Kamakura Maru (str.), Inaba Maru (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Malta (str.), Candia (str.), Deucalion (str.), Calchas (str.), Menelaus (str.), Kintuck (str.), Glaucus (str.), Kamakura Maru (str.), Agamemnon (str.), Inaba Maru (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Pinguet (str.), Patroclus (str.), FOR MARSEILLES.—Sydney (str.), Pinguet (str.), Inaba Maru (str.), Kamakura Maru (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Prins Heinrich (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Serbia (str.), Segovia (str.), Andalusia (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Sambia (str.), Savonia (str.).

FOR GENOA.—Kintuck (str.), Patroclus (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Nippon (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Seneca (str.), Richmond Castle (str.), Pembroke (str.).

MANZANILLO, MEXICO AND SAN FRANCISCO.—Atholl (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Tremont (str.), Oan/a (str.), Tosa Maru (str.), Kago Maru (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (OR).—Indravelli (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Chingtu (str.), Eastern (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Idsumi Maru (str.), Hiroshima Maru (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.—Nankin (str.), Masagon (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Lightning (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, BANGCOON AND MOULMAIN.—Freiburg (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

March—ARRIVALS.

21, Atholl, British str., from Shanghai.

22, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.

22, Simongan, Dutch str., from Sama-ang.

23, Andalusia, German str., from Kobe.

23, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.

23, Benlawers, British str., from Rangoon.

23, Bombay Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.

23, Ernest Simons, Fr str., from Yokohama.

23, Escolona, German str., from Port Said.

23, Hoibao, French str., from Haiphong.

23, Hsiping, British str., from Chingwangtao.

23, I. de la Rama, American str., from Iloilo.

23, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.

23, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

23, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.

23, Pekin, British str., from London.

23, Pembroke, British str., from London.

23, Rubi, British str., from Manila.

24, Brunhilde, German str., from Saigon.

24, Bulyses, British str., from Singapore.

24, Columbia, Amr. schr., from Puget Sound.

24, Hailong, British str., from Amoy.

24, Hongwan I., British str., from Singapore.

24, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.

24, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.

24, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.

24, Nanshan, British str., from Saigon.

24, Taiyuan, British str., from Australia.

24, Talbot, British cruiser, from practice.

24, Thales, British str., from Swatow.

24, Woukoi, German str., from Bangkok.

24, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.

24, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.

25, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tientsin.

25, Eclipse, British cruiser, from Mira Bay.

25, Fausang, British str., from Newchwang.

25, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Saigon.

25, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.

25, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.

25, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.

25, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hekow.

25, Kingwang, British str., from Shanghai.

25, Meekoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

25. Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 26. Kamsu, British str., from Newchwang.
 26. Kamsu, British str., from Calcutta.
 26. Iana, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 26. Oana, British str., from Liverpool.
 26. Verona, German str., from Kutchinotzu.
 27. Argonaut, British cruiser, from practice.
 27. Ballarat, British str., from Bombay.
 27. Feiching, Chinese str., from Canton.
 27. Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.
 27. Malta, British str., from Shanghai.
 27. Tabor, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
 27. Thales, British str., from Swatow.

DEPARTURES.

22. Ayr, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 22. Frigga, Norwegian str., for Wuhu.
 23. Korsaint, French cruiser, for Hoihow.
 23. Loongang, British str., for Manila.
 23. Lyceumoon, German str., for Canton.
 24. Bonlawers, British str., for Yokohama.
 24. Bombay Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.
 24. Emma Luyken, German str., for Wuhu.
 24. Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
 24. Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
 24. Kwangshang, Chinese str., for Canton.
 24. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 24. Loyal, German str., for Wuhu.
 24. Maria Valerie, Aust. str., for Shanghai.
 24. Nankin, British str., for London.
 24. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 24. Shinano Maru, Japanese str., for Seatle.
 24. Skuld, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 24. Taichong, German str., for Swatow.
 25. Airlie, British str., for Iloilo.
 25. Amara, British str., for Samarang.
 25. Andalusia, German str., for Hamburg.
 25. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
 25. An Pho, British str., for Amoy.
 25. China, American str., for San Francisco.
 25. Orassy, British cruiser, for Weihaiwei.
 25. Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 25. Hailong, British str., for Tamsui.
 25. Kwongang, British str., for Canton.
 25. Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 25. Simongah, Dutch str., for Shanghai.
 25. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 25. Telmachus, British str., for Saigon.
 25. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 25. Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 26. Amphitrite, British cruiser, for Japan.
 26. Benalder, British str., for Moulmein.
 26. Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 26. Faungang, British str., for Canton.
 26. Germania, German str., for Hoihow.
 26. Hipsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 26. Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
 26. Indrasamha, Brit. str., for Portland (Or.).
 26. Kamsu, British str., for Canton.
 26. Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
 26. P-kin, British str., for Shanghai.
 26. Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 27. Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 27. Hoihow, French str., for Hoihow.
 27. Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
 27. Singan, British str., for Shanghai.
 27. Triumph, German str., for Chefoo.
 27. Wakasa Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey and child, Mr. and Mrs. Travis, Mrs. James, Mrs. Anderson, Misses David, Resnick, Swellings, and Polk, Messrs. F. Murnier, M. Vissar, T. Goser, C. Wirz, C. Nelson, W. Piersen, J. Reed, Emile, Peterson, E. McCabe, W. G. Parks, J. Dawson, H. Toankel, F. Goston, M. Jacobs, W. Waters, J. Glover, B. Longmaid, B. Lawrence, E. J. Edwards, H. Hitchcock and C. Jones.
 Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Beuret, Mrs. W. F. Nolting, Mrs. E. Le Muynon, Mrs. C. M. Catterman, Mrs. O. F. Mallery, Mrs. E. E. Hagan, Mrs. Owaka, Misses E. Mitchell and Okumi, Capt. M. Foy, Messrs. F. Atayde, Jacinto Gil, C. A. Reynold, C. A. Chroeder, J. W. Woodruff, E. R. Bourne, J. G. Coulter, E. Goddins, E. L. Hallawell, F. H. Hilbert, C. H. Taylor, M. Garcia, Leoncio Diancio, Anake, Tanaka, D. Coute, G. Takada, A. Ota and A. D. Anderson.
 Per *Benabari*, from Bangkok, Mr. and Mrs. Ostermayer.
 Per *Maria Valerie*, from Trieste, &c., Mrs. Hartmann and Mr. M. Robe.

Per *Pitsanulok*, from Bangkok, Mr. Comming.
 Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Hon. and Mrs. F. S. Stratton, Mrs. B. J. Jones, Miss P. P. Jones, Mrs. Lyda K. Taylor, Mrs. E. Johnson, Mrs. J. F. Messer and two children, Capt. and Mrs. A. N. Walton and two children, Misses H. Fried and B. Ryan, Mrs. Maud Allen, O. F. Eklund, Capt. F. Kofed, E. Housbery, Lieut. R. Chilcott, R. N., Surgeons J. Roche, R. N., L. Boiss, R. N., Messrs. J. H. Carroll, G. H. Engelhardt, Charles Freeman, S. Jones, S. C. MacNider, E. W. Mills, H. Sanders, M. Inne, Donald Greig, A. M. O'ivara, C. K. Davis, L. W. Bishop and W. V. Robinson.

Per *Escofona*, from Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Garden and child.

Per *Bombay Maru*, from Japan, for Bombay, Messrs. H. L. Hewson, Sumi Koichi and M. Sanetoshi.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mrs. R. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Mackie and family, M. and Mrs. Coney and family, Misses E. Lyle, L. Lythou, A. Black and C. Figuera, Messrs. G. F. Derby, J. F. Bromfield and Reil.

Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c., Rev. and Mrs. Moti and three children, Rev. and Mrs. Tracy, Mrs. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Strakal, Miss Clark, Rev. Morrison and child, Lieut. Davis and Wallace.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. Ferrandiz; from Shanghai, Mrs. Ozorio and child, Mrs. Sykes, Misses Shroley and Corbin, Mrs. R. Minervois and Casso, Messrs. A. Scott, Anat. Monierde, White Cooper, Elias Stark, and Haken; for Saigon, from Yokohama, Mr. Mazels; for Singapore, from Kobe, Miss Kawahara; from Shanghai, Mr. Paul Serre; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. Caesar Jungheun; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Major and Mrs. Isacke, Messrs. Mun snye and Machidi; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Funel, Sisters Berceley and Fraisse, Messrs. Feit, Reguant, Galy, Trollet, F. Serret, Hubert and Andrew.

Per *Kwongang*, from Shanghai, Mr. Moore.
 Per *Kwanglah*, from Shanghai, Mrs. John Goodnow.

Per *Nanshan*, from Saigon, Messrs. Courtney, Noel, de Theyenard and Stall.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mrs. Hilder Ohin, Mrs. R. E. Sherwood, Mrs. H. A. Parkin, Misses Wilson, M. Bonall, M. A. Reifsnath, Paddock, Rosa Eckstein, Edna Stewart, Grayn and D. Usher, Messrs. E. E. Schneider, H. W. strig, J. E. Vickers, A. A. McBride, Jose B. Ulloa, E. Garcia, P. L. Logan and Jose Legin.

Per *Kumano Maru*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Meason and two children, Messrs. S. Kanda, P. A. Luciano and H. Ikeda; for Manila, Messrs. A. Peress, W. F. Barney, H. Watanabe and K. Sumita; for Melbourne, Mr. A. F. Hooper; for Sydney, Sir and Lady Malcolm McEacharn, Messrs. H. Coleand, J. Nelson, Julian Bessormean and W. Moony.

Per *Taiyuan*, from Australia, Capt. and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. and two Misses Abercrombie, Mrs. Harbord, Misses Morey and Stanley, Rev. Phillip Beniti, Messrs. Alcock, Taylor, Bracken Townsend, Nelson, Jones, Moses, Gladman, Lorch, Legongyola, Levey, Woods and Davis.
 Per *Kaifong*, from Iloilo, Mrs. J. Montilla, Misses Montilla, Jungue and Langhein, Messrs. W. Hannah, F. Robertson, R. B. Blackney and C. Ucin.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Australia, for Hongko g, Mrs. and Miss Biddlecombe, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay, Mrs. Monnier, Mrs. Helmut, Miss Lockman, Messrs. D. Lanyon, E. H. Whitemar, Ashton, H. G. Garrett, Bohuna and Fitzgerald; for Manila, Mrs. Monton; for Yokohama, Mrs. M. O. Robertson, Misses E. L. and L. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marks, Miss Marks, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. and Miss Paul, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. White, Mrs. C. P. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Nelson, Mrs. Hawkes, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. P. Brooks, Mrs. Fullerton, Misses Reading, Negulassy and Burns, Dr. Elliot, Messrs. S. Tamaki, Stevens, A. Parker, G. Marshall, D. Burns, G. W. Goodson, J. S. de Benneville, F. Brown, W. R. Baillie and Woodward.

Per *Kingsing*, from Shanghai, Messrs. A. Dorchy, C. Alexander, J. H. Darbyshire and J. Jones.

Per *Woosung*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Christie and child.

Per *Quifu*, from Liverpool, Mr. D. Wall.
 Per *Kumano*, from Calcutta, &c., Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Selwyn, Messrs. Henderson, F. Gray, G. Gray, T. H. Watson, C. Schlotte, B. Egler and Dr. Currie.

DEPARTED.

Per *Awa Maru*, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. Wookay and two children, Mrs. F. J. Baine-Fawitt, Mrs. Finch Dawson, Misses N. A. Chinkoff (2), Smith, I. E. Hattie and Pastourel, Major and Miss Arbutnot, Master V. M. Linkoff, Messrs. A. Fair, Schmidt, Thos. Haslam, F. H. Hallam, L. Gibbs, J. H. Bacon, Taziri, A. L. Boulenger, James Bain, I. Minuma, T. Mishima, A. Kumamoto, Y. Okada, S. Tazaki, S. Miura, T. Hirao, Iizaki, B. Stephenson, Nara, Hirose, Tenuji and Hsomi.

Per *Zofiro*, for Manila, Mrs. H. and Miss D. Rice, Mrs. Kennob, Messrs. N. K. Newman, F. L. Collamore and M. A. Heale.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Saigon, Mrs. M. Wiesse and Mr. A. Mouterde; for Singapore, Mrs. N. N. J. Ezra and child Miss H. K. Fried, Messrs. J. H. Carroll and C. J. Judah; for Bombay, Mr. L. E. Kavarana; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. El Riva and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Villen, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Legres, Mrs. and Miss Bernard, Messrs. F. O. Harvey, C. Neffe, Edm. Johannusen, J. Pauze, M. Garcolas and J. Gil.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Mrs. A. M. Walton and two children, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Stratton, Mrs. Moto Miura, Misses B. Ryan, Sato Sayo, Nebu Arai, Moto Tanaka, Miyuki Sakai and Okida Tsuru, Dr. Spilman and E. W. Bishop, Rev. J. B. Hall R. N., Messrs. V. G. V. Janlin, F. H. Hilbert, David A. Kam, J. Welgmeister, Takeyo Miura, J. H. Gsell, G. H. Andrews, Murray Jones, Ledre Atayde, C. H. Ferrandiz and H. Mendelson.

Per *Shinano Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Mrs. Grant Fitch, Mrs. Willis, Mrs. Blacklinger, Mr. and Mrs. Montavon, Mrs. Glennon, Miss Glennon, Masters Glennon (3), Mrs. Thos. Washington and infant, Mrs. Clement, Mrs. Rockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Horniman, Mrs. H. B. Wilson and child, Mrs. Gulck, Mrs. Reswik, Mrs. Zwilling, Mr. and Mrs. Zancker, Misses Rise, Percival, Hattie Murray, Rosa Eckstein and David, Messrs. T. Sumil, H. Hawkes, G. Capua, E. F. Guils, G. Raveau, H. Brown, Percival, McGrath, E. J. Edwards Bont Laurence and A. Rizzini.

Per *Sungkiang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Dorsey and child, Mr. and Mrs. Domingo and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio and two children, Miss Antonio, Mrs. A. E. McCabe, Mrs. H. L. James, Mrs. V. Rousser, Misses F. Edwards, M. McGary, J. McCarthy and G. Miller, Messrs. J. A. Glover, H. Frankel, W. P. Pierson, C. O. Nelson, H. E. Braden, A. Perez, V. Monga, M. Ponce, V. Ponce, J. Murillo and A. Bolderuado.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Japan, Mrs. J. Marks, Miss Marks, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Hawkes, Mrs. and Miss Morgan, Mrs. C. P. Smith, Mrs. M. O. Robertson, Misses L. and F. Robertson, L. Robertson, Jr., Mrs. and Miss Goto, Mrs. and Miss Paul, Mrs. Fullerton, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. J. Araki, Misses Burns, Reading, Nynlassy, Dr. H. Elliot, Messrs. J. S. de Benneville, Woodward, D. Burns, S. Lowaki, E. Stevens, Nelson, A. Z. McBride, G. W. Godson, Marshall, Parker, Brown, Marks, Wamersley, W. R. Baillie, E. J. Pertere, T. Furukawa, B. Fukui, and T. Umeyo.

Per *Wakasa Maru*, for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Lightfoot, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Gubbins, Misses Helen, Una and M. Gubbins, Madame Tracey, Dr. and Mr. J. Kitao, Misses E. Murison, E. Parker and Y. Saiyoshi, Major-General Okura, Messrs. Parkes, L. A. Sharpe, E. Matthew, A. Hayward, E. Platt, E. J. Steinsbery, W. E. Stacey, S. P. J. Kirk, E. Spillbury, M. Z. R. Nemazee, K. Beale, J. Arima, T. Yonei, M. Kato, Y. Nogami, T. Otsuka, T. Takana, H. Mizumo, S. Watanabe, R. Hasegawa, K. Sawada, F. Kagoshima, S. Ota, Ghani and Miss Tama Yoshida.

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